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RECORDS OF THE KIRK-SESSION OF E[illegible]

1584-1779;

With a Brief Record of the Readers, Ministers, and Bishops, 1567-1897.

By WM. CRAMOND, LL.D., F.S.A.Scot., Schoolmaster of Cullen.

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the Kirk-Session of Elgin,
1584-1779

Date due

THE Minutes of the Kirk-Session of Elgin are, in several respects, the most valuable now extant in Scotland. The parish was of more than ordinary extent, and containing, as it did, a large burghal and a considerable rural population, the business of the Session was thus necessarily of a very varied character, while the successive Session Clerks were men possessed of exceptional qualifications for their office. Few, if any, Session Books illustrate so fully the various phases of social and religious life in the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries.

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Extracts from Elgin Kirk-Session Records. By Wm. Cramond, A.M., LL.D., F.S.A.Sc., Schoolmaster of Cullen.

ELGIN KIRK-SESSION RECORDS.

1584.

APRIL.—The assemblie of the paroche kirk of Elgin holdin within the paroche kirk thereof in presence of Thomas Myll (and six other elders) and Mr Alexander Douglas, minister thereof.

The first case in the records is one of slander, a class of cases which vexed the minds of successive sessions of Elgin for more than a century.

The elders ordain Andrew Alves for slander to compeir in the kirk of Pluscardein upon Sonday in presence of Robert Dunbar and the parochinaris and to confess his slander and offence, craive pardon off Martein Petrie and his spous, and the said Martein to receive freindlie the said Andrew.

In September the Session took action anent pilgrimages to chapel, and in the following month several parties not compearing were "ordainit to be incarcerat till thay have fund to have satisfiet the kirk."

1586.

April 21.—Effame Peddar is ordanit to mak hir repentance publiclie on Sonday nixt bair fuittit and bair leggitt and is ordanit giff evir scho sall be found in the lyke failze in tyme cuming to be banischit during hir lyftyme of this towne.

June 22. — The assemblie of the eldarschip of Elgin holdin within the queir of the paroche kirk thairoff. Agnes Gaw guilty by her awin confession of injuring her mother is wilfullie obleist in caice sche offend hir mother herafter to stand in the joggis (?) and thareeftir to be banesit.

1587.

April 16.—General Act anent sclander. The whilk day the eldaris considering the wyce of sclander abunding within this burgh and that the saymn can not be quenchit without severe punesment, thairfor hes ordanit the persoun fund culpable in notorious sclander to sitt in the stuil of repentance with ane paper on thair heid conteining the caus of thair sitting thair and thairefter to crave remissione als vele of the partie offendit and sclanderit as the congregation present and in case the said offender sal happin thairefter to be fund giltye in the lyke to be ordanit to stand in joggis on ane Sunday befoir noon and thairefter to be banesit, and this act first to be put in executioun in the persoun of Meddie Innes becaus of the tryell of her manifest sclander committit upon Margret Russall. Marjorie Anderson [having confessed that by her own negligence she] haid lait (overlaid ?) tua bairnis being in bed with hir [she is ordained to present herself in the stool of repentance on Sunday in sackcloth barefooted and barelegged with a paper upon her head containing the cause of her offence and if she offend again to be banished].

May 6.—Helen Leslie brocht with hir fywe or sex personis furth of Edinbrugh to mak residence heir and is summond to this day to have producit anie lawfull testimoniall of thair minister quhair they maid last residence quhow they hade behave thame selffis and for quhat caus thay removit thairfra.

On 17th August William Hardy complained on Jonet Waus, his spouse, who refused to live with him. The case was continued in hope of concord. Next Sunday the elders ordained her to adhere to her husband under pain of the censures of the Kirk The following Sunday, being asked why she adhered not, she answered she had danger of her life at his hands. She was admonished and ordered to be excommunicated if she adhered not. John Layng being desired to adhere to his wife, promises to do so.

On 23rd January, 1587, a complaint was given in by Agnes Gill, daughter to William Gill, claiming promise of marriage of Alexander Skene, servant to Thomas Hay, burgess of Elgin, contained in a contract subscribed by Sir James Johnston. The said Alexander was ordained to be summoned under pain of the censures of the Kirk. On 7th February Alexander accordingly appeared, but desired fifteen days more to consider his answer, he not being "resolut." [There being no minute of meeting till April, the result is not known.]

1588.

September 18.—Comperit Jonet Fentoun, spous to Patrik Rattray, burgess of Elgin, being accusit for coming in pilgrimage to the Laidie Chepall, confessit the samyn to be trew with her dochter Margret Rattraye and offerit hir self in the will of the Kirk and siclyk that scho saw Christiane Hay, William Sutherland in the paroche of Moye Maret Sutherland spous to Alexander Allan Gelis Anderson, spous to Alexander and Anderson fleshar.

The assemblie of the elderschip of Elgin convenit be Thomas Milne, ane of the eldaris of Elgin 31st October, 1588.

The minister was present at this meeting but did not preside, probably because he brought an accusation against Alexander Monypennie, saddler, for slandering him. Monypennie ultimately confessed. About this period meetings of Session were frequently held, with no minister, only elders, present.

Comperit Margaret Sutherland accusit for going in pilgrimage to the Laidy Chepall, be hir greit aithe denyit the samyn. Agnes Ryache in Elgin confessit her self to have past in pilgrimage to the wall callit the laidy chepall and that she saw John Milne son to John Milne in Waulkmill and — Puggat in Barmukatie with his wyff and others.

In March, 1588 (1589 by the present mode of reckoning), Archibald Douglas of Pittendreich and others compeared before the Session for abstaining from the Sacrament of the Supper of the Lord. Some gave private reasons, others pleaded "gruges to certane persons," but all declared it was not from contempt of the Kirk. Robert Dansoun and Elizabeth Spens appeared asking to be proclaimed for marriage.

General act. The haill eldaris vnderstanding the returning of Marjorie Addisoun quha wes banesit for thift, &c., and forseing the decay of all discipline and gude order in caice sic sclanderous persons be suffart to remaine, thairfor hes, all in ane voice condescendit that the said Marjorie salbe of new banisit with the marke of ane iron upon the cheik and in caice scho be fund thairefter heir to put her to the knowledge of ane assize.

1589.

In respect of the disorder that follows upon the proclamation of banns, the Session order parties wishing to be proclaimed to appear before the elders on Wednesdays.

March.—Nicoll Watson, servitor to the Erle of Sutherland, and Marget Myll, lawful dochter to John Myll, burges of Elgin, to be proclaimed by the reidar.

1590.

April 30.—This day intimation was maid to the balzies and eldaris present that they sall visit the marcat of the Sonday at any tym in the day according to the act of the Generall Assemblie in all poyntis.

The minister made intimation of his first admonition of excommunication for removing the mercatts of the Sabboth Day.

September.—The names of thame that are appointed taskmasters to lay the taxation of ane hundredth libs for the price of the new bell. For the sowth east quarter David Winchester and Alexander Grant. For the sowth vest Patrik Andersoun and Thomas Hay. For the north vast David Cowy and Alexander Pringyll. For the north east James Pedder and Thomas Hay, merchant.

Assembly of the elders by James Douglas, provost of Elgin (minister not present). Gelis Gardin accusit of bearing witnes to the superstitious baptizing of ane bairn within ane hous in Allex. Gadderar's cloiss. She denyit the same.

Dec. 3.—The examinations is to begin on Monday nixt. Ane bailzie and tua eldaris appoynted to keipp every Sonday that thair

ɔe na people apoun the gait the tyme of preaching nor na buithes then to be oppn.

John Straquhan sklandered Margret Gadderar in calling her ane witch karling.

1591.

2 Feb.—A generall Act. It is appoynted that na puir beggar folk, quhidder thai be of burgh or landward, resort and cum within the kirkzaird on the Sondayes bot to be within the kirk and heir the preaching and that sum discreit men be appoynted to put the same to execution in tymes to cum that thair cry be not hard on the Sonday at the kirk duir.

The churchyard then stood around the church in the High Street.

16 Feb.—John Gauld, tailor, for injuring his mother is ordanit to stand in the joggis with ane myter on his heid fra ten hours to twelf hours upon Saterdaye nixt at the trie nixt the scameles [the mitre to be of paper and to contain the cause of his offence].

Every person wardit in the steeple to pay to the officer xii d. John Beg and his wife and others to be summoned for having of bairnes onbapteist. Robert Sutherland, merchant, is cautioner for putting John Gauld be nine hours on Saterdaye in the stepill of Sanct Gelis Kirk.

21st Feb.—Thomas Duf for giving occasion of sclander is appointed to sit in the stuill of sclander on Sunday next in his awin clayths. Compears James Douglas son natural to William Douglas vicar of Elgin. Allexr. Rob accusit for contempt of the word for nocht resorting to the kirk. He has actit himself to keep the preachings in tymes coming on pain ɟo 40s.

8 March.—Androw Puggatt has actit himself to remove out of the town the morn and to remane therfra (except it be on mercat, fair or other dayis with ane maister), and not to remain therin efter the soun going down, and that in pain of burning the said Andro on the cheik and to be cartit through the toun.

Isobell Loutfut enactis herself to remove from the toun. Alexander Kelman guilty of playing at the catche upon the queir of the Kirk. The Communion is to be held at the ischew of the beir seid.

20th March.—Comperit Allex. Dunbar of Westfield in Pluscarden, and promised to solemnise marriage with Marjory Straquhan his lemmane and partie with quhome he hadis hous.

Maij 26.—This day Mr Allexr. Donglas, minister at Elgin, desyrit the bailleis of the said burgh that thay wald caus all halding of mercattis within the burgh on Sondayis to be stayit, and als that the mercat of Trinitie day whilk was schortlie to be in the burgh on that Sonday were continewit till Monday thereftir and fordir that all mercat dayis that salhappin to fall on ane Sonday salbe appointit to be haldin on the Monday nixt thereftir within the burgh, quhilk desyir the baillie and elderis then present thocht reassonabill in respectt quhairoff thai haif promesit to caus makoppin proclamatiouns on Satterday and Sonday nixt be ten houris afoirnoone at the mercat place to the effect abovewritten.

June 2.—The Acts anent slander to be put in execution against Isobell Jak but the Session considering these Acts contein some seveir and rigorous dealing in the punishment of the offenders and for mitigation of these Acts they have ordained a new stool to be biggitt whereupon the partie or person sclanderer is appointed to sit in hair or sakclothe three severall Sundayes fra the first bell that is rung to preaching and for the mair

public declaration of the offence it is appointed that ane paper be affixit on the breistis upon the whilk sall be wrettin the caus of thair sitting thair and lyikwayis thai sall confess thair offence to God, the partie sclanderitt, and the congregatioun present and of all craif pardoun therfor.

Jnne 9.—Comperit David Cuming in Cauld Cottis and producit ane testimoniall of ane contract of mariage maid betuix him and Issobell Walkar, dochter to John Walkar, portionar of Urquhart, wrettin be Mr John Innes minister at Urquhart qnho ratefeit the same in presens of the minister and eldaris present and desyrit his banns to be proclamit on Sonday nixt.

June 23.—It is appointed that the minister sall proclame furth of the pulpit on Sonday nixt aganis all baneist persones fra this toun that thai resort nocht within this toun eftir the sone going doun and ressauaris of thais within thair houses sall pay xls. for the first fault besyid thair repentans.

The Session pass a general Act that

Qnhatsumevir persoun being diseasit within this burgh be seiknes departs this lyif on [without] adverteising the minister, redar, or ane elder in thair absens sall want the convey of the faythfull to thair buriall . . . and forbidds the belman to knell the hand bell for thame or ony uther bell.

The last day of Junij 1591 zeiris assemblie haldin within the queir of the Paroche Kirk present Maister Allexander Douglas, minister at Elgin, Johnn Annand of Morrestoun, Allexander Annand and Mr James Gardin, bailleis, William Gibsoun, Thomas Hay burgesses and eldaris.

The bailies seem to have had a seat in the Session by virtue of their office of bailie.

Alexander Annand, baillie, promesit to present Isobell Sowter to the assemblie this day aucht dayis. It is appointed that all the young men be summonit agane this day aucht dayis to heir thame ordanit to haif psalme buiks in tymes cuming that can reid.

Midsomer's fyiris.—Some to be summoned for the onbigging of bein and Petir fyiris.

June 30.—Anent sick persounes as war summonit to provyd thame selffis psalm buiks according to the act maid thereanent, comperit Thomas Winchester and producit ane buik quhilk is notit be Rot. Leslie, clerk of this assemblie. John Innes, yr., producit ane other psalm buik. Several promise to prowyd thame psalme buikis aganis Sancte Gelis day nixt. It is appointit that everie persoun that biggis and makkis on bein, midsummer and Peter fyiris in tymes cuming or that are maisteris of housses allowing, manteining or suffering the same to stand, or that stayis not thair servandis fra doing theroff sall stand in sakclothe three seuerall Sondayis upoun the stuill of repentance besyidis the Kingis penaltie to be takin up therfoir.

July 8.—Walter Innes in the nether end of the toun promised to carie his wife and dochter this day aucht dayis and the eldaris appointed the minister to proceid aganis the dissobedientis that omit to compeir for the superstitious and onbigging of midsommer fyiris, Peter fyiris, to admonitiounes under the pain of excommunicatioun of thame. The names of thais that ar dissobedient is Marjorie Urquhart, &c. That day Cristen Sutherland being accusit for the superstitious and idolatrous onbigging of bein, midsommer and Petterfyiris and upoun hir greit ayth being sworne hes denyit the same that scho nayther knew therof or consentit therto in ony wayis bot quhow sone scho persauit the same tuik watter and drownit out the same and thairfoir sould be absoluit fra ony forther accusatiounes therintill.

9th July.—John Smith, post, to be proclaimed with Helen Innes.

14th July.—The minister maid intimation to the bailleis anent down putting of the Sondayis mercattis whilk is haldin within this burgh that he will proceid to admonitiounes aganis thame under the pane of excommunication and Maister James Gardin protestit that the persounes of the landwart as cam ta hald mercat on Sonday suld be wardit be thame within the tolbuyth, for he allegit thame to be the principall caus of the same.

Anent fairs on Sunday. The minister and elders ordain St James fair, that falls on Sunday this year, to be on Monday following, and no market to be on Sunday, and if it happens any fair or market day to fall on Sunday in any time coming, it will be held on the Monday following, and proclamation of this to be made at the market place "callit the skemlis" by a town officer having a command of the bailies. William Mill, burgess in Elgin, has promised to provide a psalm book to himself betwixt this and 1st September. Meddie Innes summoned for bigging on of midsummer fires, and having a bairn unbaptised. She denies as to the fires. As to the child she promises to have it baptised. Margaret Innes confessed bigging on of midsummer fires. She is appointed to appear two Sundays, and to forbear the said superstition under the pain of banishment.

28th July. — The minister and eldaris inhibitis Robert Leslie, redar, that he nether marie nor bapteis withovt he haif the express commandment of the minister and eldaris. The clerk is instructed to summon certain honest and discreet persons to compear before them for delating of sweararis, banneris,

dinging or injuring of father and mother, nicht walkers &c.

The assembly ordains John Walker to give up in bill the names of them that are disobedients to the ecclesiastical discipline of this burgh to the bailies of that quarter where they dwell.

Alexander Grant and others accusit for refuising of the puiris bred (=brod). All ordanit to stand and collect in the maist convenient place for gathering of support to the puir, ilk ane thair tyme and day about.

1592.

29th March. — Anent the supplication giffin in be —— Innes, it is appointit ony ane of his awin freinds within this toun to gang through the toun for gathering of support to him, and he sal haif licence to do the samyn.

26th April.—The Communion to be on the last day of April, and the fast to be on Friday before noon and afternoon, and preaching to be during the same, "that thai may be the better prepared to that halie actioun of the Supper of the Lord."

17th May.—It is statut and ordanit thatt quhatsumevir persoun beis challengit and found to haif spoikin filthie and abhominable language, for the first fault sall stand in the joigis or ellis pay 20s, the penalty and fines to be duplicated for further offences. It is concludit upoun that the personis presentlie within the stepill, vardit thair for thair filthie and lascivious language, remane euerie ane of thame in the samyn till thai paye sex schillingis viiid. as ane penaltie appointed therfor, and, gif it happinis thame nocht to paye the samyn within xxiiii. hours herefter, thay salbe haid to the croce, naikit fra thair belt

up and thair ressaine ane half dussane strypis, and convoyit fra that to the tolbuyt and ther ressaue als monye, and fra thence to the skameles, and thair be phippit, and fra that to the nether bow, and thair to suffer vi. strypis; and, gif thai be fund incident in that vyce, to be brunt on the cheik and expellit and baneist out of this toun.

26th May.—James Guthrie, for defying with a drawn sword John Innes, bailie, in the execution of his duty on Trinity market even, is ordanit to stand three Sondays in harie clayth in the public stool of repentance, and in the presence of the congregation deliver the hiltis of the said sword to the said John Innes and thairefter the said weaponn wherewith he injurit the magistrate to hing thair three Sundays.

Henry Young accusit for the awaybyding fra the communion ordanit to be wardit.

28th June.—The minister cravit licence of the elders and council to do his lesum business in the south for fifteen days. Granted.

11th October. — Whasoever persoun or houshalder within this paroche bydis fra the kirk fra the preaching on the Sabboth day (except greit caus of necessitie import) sal be convict in sax schillingis aucht pennies. If ony landward person comes to this toun on the Sabboth day being found remaining in the street or in alehouse or tavern the time of preaching or utherwayes occupeit nor in heiring of the word of God sall paye tua schillingis to the puir and if any person of landward parochiner of Elgin beis biddin repair to the hous of prayer by a Magistrate and disobeys sall be wardit in the steeple the space of 24 hours.

18th Oct.—Marion Slorach for committing crueltie on her own person with a knife is ordained to stand in the joggis in the nether end of the toun and the said knife to be infixit in the tree beside her.

1st Nov.—(? 1592). — James Roy, pyper, accusit for ganging through the toun playing on his gryit pyipe in the nycht seasoun without consent or licence of the toun and Magistrats thairof and lykwayis for playing this last Sonday upoun his gryt pyip at efternone in tyme of preaching in contempt of God His Word and Kirk and thairfoir thai appoint him to stand in the hairclayth on Sonday nixt and mak his repentance publictlie and that he remane in the stepill till he find caution to do the same.

Nov. 1.—James Brabner in the Green, William Mitchell, thair, George Murisoun, thair, consentit to the keping of the actis of the Sabboth, and in the meintyme thai being accusit for leading of corns vpoun the Sabbath daye confessit the same, and hes actit thame selfs in pane of 40s. to mak thair repentance in the Paroche Kirk of Elgin vpoun Sonday nixt in the east nuik therof the tyme of preaching thairfoir.

Nov. 7.—William Chissolme [and two others, for not obeying a summons of the Session] to be wardit in the Stepill, when thei cum to this toun. Others ordanit to be poyndit and wardit for thair contempt.

15th Nov.—David Sim sall forbear the Sonday's playing the tyme of preaching in pane of 20s.

6th Dec.—Thai haiff ordanit that na persoun or persounis be permittit to remane in thair hows of the town's folks or cuntrey folks the tyme of preaching vpoun the Sabboth daye quhidder thai haif meat or drink or not vndir the paine of the actis maid anent the breking of the Sabboth daye maid heirtofoir.

It is appointit that the handbell go through the toun inhibiting all and sundrie the parochinaris of Elgin to accompany the corps of ony excommunicat persoun to the buriell vnder the pain of x lib. and making of thair repentance publictlie thairfoir.

7th March.—Aganis the brekaris of the Sabboth. The said daye the haill merchanntis of this toun are summonit to this daye and compeirand the minister and eldaris maist ernestlie desyris tham to forbear the Sondayis mercatt quhilk thai continuallie occupy and transgressis the Sabboth thairthrow, staying thame self from heiring of the Word and uthers therfra to the greit dishonour of God and hurt of the saulis of many, and the saids merchaunts acknawlegand thair fault hes promeist to mend the samyn that thai sall not ber in thair hous nor buyth buy nor sell upoun na Sondayis heireftir in pane of the actis to be executit aganis thame maid in our assemblie.

14th March.—Janet Murraye confessit that Margaret Smyth causit hir cast furth watter upoun a Sonday doun in a stank, and the said Janet declaris on hir conscience that part of the watter fell on heir feit, and thereftir her feit peillit and that scho laye a lang tyme seik therefter. William Young, stallinger, induellar in this burgh, accusit for selling of drink on the Sabbothe, culd not deny; becaus this is the first tyme he is spairit, and hes promeist to forbeir. James Ogilvie, sone in law to Thomas Umphraye, accusit for suffering his wyif sell merchandice in his hous upoun the Sondaye, quha refusit.

1593.

Aprill 4.—Nicoll Watsoun and Johne Angous induellaris in the burgh of Elgin being accusit for accompaneing the Jesuiettis and in speciall thais quho ar with my ladye Sutherland and helping of thame to say mes. The minister offeris him to resolue the saidis personis gif thai be in doubt of thair religioun and for making ansuer to this accusatioun hes giffin thame till adwyise till efternoone. Barbara Feldoun hes actit herself ouer agane

to remove hir self out of this toun and to remane perpetually furth of this samyn vnder the panis of burning of hir in thre partis of the face gif scho contravenis the samyn. The assemblie geivis command to Robert Leslie, redar in this toun, to bapteis hir bairne on Sondaye nixt cumis. Janet Martyn comperit and askit mercie and pardin of James Young, armorar, for the miscalling of him and hes actit hir self neuir to commit the lyik in tymes cuming vnder the panis of standing in the joiggis and hairclayth xxiiij hours.

10th April. — Helen Fowlertoun depones scho hard Annapill Thomsone call Elspet Robertson, spouse to James Perie, witchis geit. The act against slanderers to be put in full execution against Annapill Thomsone.

9th May.—Efter ressoning anent the day of the Communion and materiallis for the same it was concludit that the greatest number of honest men within the toun suld be summoned agane the nixt Frydaye the allewint of this instant, to gif thair opinion in respect of the busie tyme of zeir twtching the Communioun and materiallis.

11th May.—It is appointit that the Communioun be ministrat upon Sondaye the 27 day of this instant and for the better preparatioun thairunto they haif appointit ane fast and abstinence to be upoun Sondaye the 20 day of Maij and preiching that day vpoun Vedinsdaye and Fryday thairefter, the 23 day and 25 day thairof ane fast and preaching to be preceislie keipit the saidis dayis through owt the haill broghe and landwart sa mony as will aggre and for notiseing of the premissis ordainis the minister to proclaim the samyn out of pulpit on Sondaye nixt for publicatioun thairoff. It is appointit that ane summonds be maid be clark of our assemblie to summond a certane of the maist zealous wyis and discreit personis bayth of the brogh and landwart agane Tuyisday the xv. day of this instant

moneth of Maij to compeir within the queir of the Paroche Kirk of Elgin the said daye to laye a taxatioun for the payment of the casting ouer agane of the new bell of this Kirk.

15th May.—Mr Alex. Douglas convenit Alexr. Haye of Frosterseat, Mr Alex. Leslie, persoun of Botarie in Quhyitwraye, persons a landwart, Wm. Gibsoun, Mr James Gardin, Alex. Hoppringhill, James Patrie. Ilk pleuch landwart to pay xiijs iiijd and the toun to tax themselves by thair taxmasters.

16th May.—Comperit Barbara Sutor being summondit to gif up delatioun of thais quhome scho knew to gang to the idolatrous well of the chappell callit Ladye Grace this last sommer. Scho delatis imprimis hir awin dochter —— Tarras, Effie Femaister within this toun, Janet Beig, Marjorie Iwell, Consciens dochter, Agnes Innes, dochter to Walter Innes in Elgin, Jhone Edam in Innerlochtie. I yikwayis hes actit hir self that scho sall neuir heirefter pas in pilgrimage to the said chappell and well thairof, uther zit to ony uther idolatrous place in tymes cuming under the pane of baneischment.

25th May.—Comperit Tyberius Winchester, being accusit for going through the toun with certain raskell in company with him pype and swesche (Jamieson's Dictionary explains swesche as a trumpet, but it seems rather a drum) on the ewening before the fast confessit. He is ordanit to sit in his awin place, and sall ryis quhen the minister callis on him on Sonday nixt, and confess his offence as repentance and amendment for the same.

31st May.—Effie Femaister confessis hir passing in pilgrimage to the Chappell callit the Lady of Grace, and the Act maid anent idolaters to be execut upoun hir, and scho being found reincident to be baneist.

20th June.—Grissell Johnston confessit hir pilgrimage to the well. The Catechisme is appointit fra Sondaye nixt cuming to be teacht at efter noonis in the Kirk ilk Sondaye.

25th June.—The minister in respect that he was ernestlie crawit be my Lord of Mortown's letter to pas Sowth with my Lord Buchquane and certane uther neidfull ordors of his awin, crawit ane twantie dayis or ane monethis licence whilk was grantit provyding that he causit sum of his brethren to occupy his place in teaching upon the Sondaye till his return.

"The eldership of the burgh of Elgin," or "the Session of the eldership," held their usual meetings in his absence, no minister being present at the meetings. At some of the meetings only two elders were present.

16th August.—Several parties were threatened with excommunication if they have any dealings with Mr John Innes, excommunicate. 29th August.—Margaret Greiff confessis she suffered her barne to be smoirit through negligence upon the nycht. She is ordanit to stand three Sundays in sackcloth bairfut and bairleggit in the kirk before the congregation, beginnand at the first bell, so arrayit, to stand in the porche of the kirk till last bell ring to the preaching ceiss and than fra that to be removit be ane officiar to the commoun place within the kirk appointit for thais that stand in hair or sackclothe and thair to stand all the quhyll of the preaching and prayeris and in the haill meintyme of the making of hir repentance appoynts ane mytre of paper upoun hir head or breast, with ane inscriptioun therupoun conteining the caus of hir being thair.

5th September.—The presbyterie has ordanit euerie minister within the precincts to intimate to thair perochioneris the excommuni-

cation of Mr Johne Innes and James Knowis. Thomas Gaa cordiner, convict of vorking on the Sabboth, having treit a boot and sewit a heill. He is ordained to pay 20s.

18th October.—The minister maid intimation of the names of all the elders that are to be chosen publictlie upon Sondaye nixt in presence of the haill auditors for this year of 1593 to Michaelmes nixt. Also four decons. No objections against elders or deacons. The laird of Pittendreich and others are desired to be elders "a landwart and within the perioche of Pluscarden."

31st October.—The minister and elders has appointed the officers to poynd the fischaris vyves for banning and swearing. Those guilty to pay 12d for the first fault and to be doubled if relapse, "and the fischar wyves to be poyndit of a doussand haddokis for the first fault."

7th November.—John Man slandered Richard Warden, calling him thief and his barnis theif's geitts. Man is to remane in the steepill upon his awin expensis till he find caution that he sall compear before the congregation of Elgin three Sundays and mak his repentance in sackcloth upon the new stuill in the north-east nuik of the kirk with a paper upon his breist contenand the caus wherfor he sittis ther.

21st November.—Convenerunt—Mr Alex. Douglas, minister at Elgin, John Annand of Murrestoun, William Gibsoun of Shereffmylne, Mr James Garden, bailzie, David Torrie, bailzie, Thomas Hay, towne clark, and the the other elders. Monie of the inhabitantis of the said burghe being convenit within the queir in presens of the minister, baillies and eldaris, thay being inquyrit generallie and be thair names particularlie to consent to reformatioun and purgatioun of the said burgh of all and sindrie viked, sclanderous and unprofitabill memberis of the publict veall thairof,

efter inquisitione of the quhilks thay all as ane man in ane voce consentit and agreit that the said micht be done dilligentlie with exact execution to the performing wherof thay promeist thair concurrence, fortificatione and assistance, and becaus oftymes it happinis that quhen sick persones as ar remowit and baneist furth of this toun returnis to the toun mâist contempnandlie vilipending and transgressing the guid actis mad for the commoun weill therof sindrie honest men interponis thame selffis in thair caus.

[Such interponers to pay £13 6s 8d of their readiest gear.]

5th December.—Alexander Smith, merchaund, guilty of dishaunting of the preaching upon Sondayis and oppining of his buyth duir.

19th December.—David Gawdie, merchaunt, confessit that he sauld xvi d. of sukir upoun Sondaye last be licence of William Gibsoun. James Patrik, merchaunt, confessit selling efter the efternoones preaching be licence of Mr James Gordon. James Calder confessit the selling of a bonet efter the efternoon's preaching upon Sondaye last. James Walker and Alex. Smith, merchandis, confessit selling sum waris upon Sondaye last. Alex. Anderson, merchant, confessit selling of half eln of linen. George Wanis confessit the selling of a stane of iroun be licence upoun Sonday last.

20th December.—James Anderson, merchant, confessit selling of sum gray clayth upoun a Sonday in necessitie to mekill James Stewart in his haistie passing that time efter the efternoon's preaching to the south. Patrik Andersoun accusit for breaking of the Sabboth daye be selling of fleschis and holding of his buith dur oppin. John Tailzeour confessit the breaking of a scheipe on Sondaye but he is accusit of slayand a scheipe that tyme. Alexander Anderson, fleschar, confessed the selling of a quarter scheipe on Sonday last.

20th December.—All persons fund at pastyme or playing on Sonday to pay 20s.

4th January.—Compeired Tiberius Winchester, quhome the minister and eldaris accusit for gysing through the toun upone the 27th day of December accompaneit with a pyper and certane utheris ryotous pepill efter nyn houris of the nicht quho denyit ony abuse in the doing therof and therfoir the eldaris appointis him to be heir the morne to ansuer in the said mater quhen thair salbe a gretar number of the eldaris.

5th January.—Tiberius Winchester confessit ryding through the toun upon Thuirsdaye at evin the 27th day of December accompaneit with a pyper. The said daye mony of the crattismen of the said burghe convenit sic as tailzearis, cordiners, vobstaris, flescharis, and merchantis, the quhilkis personis wer all accusit for prophaning of the Sabbothe daye be vorking and playing as also for selling of certane merchandice. Henceforth all having their booth doors open on the Lord's day to pay 40s for the first fault and the penalty to be duplicated. All past offenders to pay 6s 8d.

6th March.—The examinationnes of the toun to begin on Monondaye nixt, the maisteris of the famileis befoir noone and the servandis efternoone, and the communion to be ministrat to the landward on Sondaye cum aucht dayis and to the toun the Sondaye thaireftir and for the better preparatioun thairunto a fast to be vpoun Wednesdaye and Frydaye the ouk befoir.

1593.—John Gordoun of Corridoun and Cristane Sutherland in Elgin married.

1594.

24th April.—The minister crawit licence to the Generall Assemblie becaus he was appointed be the last Synod ane of the Commissioners thairto. The eldars grant it.

18th June.—It is appointit that the servands of this brugh kepe the preaching aythe foirnoon or efternoon under the paynis of poynding of 16d. of thair fie. It is appointit that thair salbe ane fast tua first Sondayes of July nixt to cum.

3rd July. — It is appointit that ane exhortatioun be everilk daye in the morning during the fast whilk begins on Friday nixt till Sondaye thairefter. James Cumming, tailzeour, accusit for nycht walking and playing at the kyles the tyme of devyne service and for dishaunting the Kirk.

17th July.—James Douglas, sone naturall to William Douglas, vicar of Elgin, hes actit him self to be baneist gif euir he beis found at pastyme the tym of preaching or zit found ane common player.

25th September.—Agnes Smithe, nureische to Valtir Auldcorn, sumtyme nureische to James Andersoun, accusit for conferring with ane woman callit Janet Cuming suspectit of vitchcraft quho confessit that scho spak to the said Janet and speirat at hir gif scho culd helpe the seik barne that scho was fosterand of James Andirsouns, quho ansuerit that scho culd. Confessis that the said Cuming cam thryis to James Andersonis hous broght with her wattir in ane pig and veische the barne therwith, scho confessis and declaris that the said Janet Cuming bad her, viz. the said nureische, go the place of the Kirk wher Grissall Urrellis first barne ves bureit and thair unspokin tak up ane handfull of meildis and bring the same to the said Janet Cuming that scho micht put the same among the vatter that suld vesche the seik barne with, scho declarit that scho zeid to the grave and did as scho bad hir, also confessis that scho, the said Agnes Smyt careit the watter that veische the barne at the command of the said Cuming to the rynnand wattir of Lossie and

keist in the same thair that nane suld hurt thairby and the said Smyth grantis that scho helpit to put the said Cuming over the bak dyik of the said James Andersons zaird.

1596.

21st May.—Andro Fdie, officiar, convict in the payment of 6s. 8d. for keiping of taverns and hoistillarie in his hous upon Sonday last.

2nd June.—It is appointit and ordanit be the haill sessioun that quhatsumevir persoun responsall removis furth of the Kirk the tym of preaching thairin and speciallie befoir the gewing of the blessing sall paye of thair ewest geir for the first fault 6s 8d, the second fault dublit and triplit &c. Item that ther be upliftit xld. of sick as abydis fra the Kirk the tym of preiching specialie upoun the Sabboth daye. A gentill and generall admonition for keiping of the prayeris upoun the nixt Sondaye, tua bailleis to stay the mercatts afoir noon and uther tua the eftir noon to the same effect.

Lasciviousnes of the lasses. — Magie Tailzeour, seruand woman to Alexander Grant, Elspet Beig, servitour to James Calder, Magie Thomsoune, seruand to James Donaldsoun, merchant, confessit thame to be in ane dance callit gillatrype, singing a foull hieland sang, for the quhilkis they confess thame selffis worthie of puneishment and thairfoir desyris the juges to schaiv thame and thai sall nevir commit the lyik under sic paynes as thai vill enjoyne thame and efter thair confessing wer committit againe to waird to remane thair quhill thei find cautioun to mak thair publict repentance and that thei sall nevir committ the lyik under the payne of the tynsall of thair feis to be upliftit fra thair maisters and applyet *ad pios usus ecclesiae.*

16th June. — Alexander Boynd, being accused of accompanying the corpse of an excommunicate person, said he did it accidentally. He is ordained

To stand in his awin habit and in his awin place and confess his fault.

18th June.—Marjorie Andersoun the relict spous of Blais Alves accusit of remanying within this burgh seeing scho was baneist out of the samyn and thairfoir scho is ordanit to remove out of this toun on Mononday.

30th June — The eldaris accusit the sleuth and absens of the officiaris on Sondaye and no compeirance this daye to produce ather poyndis or to testifie thair dilligence nayther haue they summonit sic personis as they fand abusing the Sabboth day be selling of meat and drink on the Sonday or zit in thair houssis the tyme of preaching. The eldaris hes promeist to visic euerie man his quarter of the toun the morne.

21st July —Ministeris returning out of Orknay. The minister desyrit to vnderstand quhow all the commoun effairis and speciallie of the conventiounes to the sermonis sen his north passing quho ansuerit veill albeit nocht so veill as gif himself haid bein present.

23rd July.—The haill eldaris present settis doun this act that is to say that thair salbe upliftit of all flyttaris and blasphemaris of thair nichtbors within this paroche four lib. money gif thai be responsall besyd thair repentance as is alredy prescryvit quhilk money salbe applyit *ad pios usus ecclesiae.*

A proclamation anent the removing of St James dayis mercat af of the Sondaye and all utheris fairis that salhappin to fall on a Sabboth to continew quhill Tuysdaye thairefter for the mercat day and Mononday the mercat ewin and sielyik a proclamation on the mercat daye to be, charging all merchauds and uther

gentlemen to cum and gif thair adwyis with the minister and eldaris of this paroche anent the prevening and postponying of all mercatts fallin on the Sabboth dayes.

27th July. — Maister William Douglas, moderator of the presbiterie of Elgin, and with him Maister Alexander Rasoun, minister at Spynie, clark, maister Alexr. Innes, minister att Birney, cam to the visitatioun of the said Kirk of Elgin. The minister and eldaris present and mony of the honestest men of the said burgh convenit with thame within the queir of the said Kirk of Elgin.

6th August.—Alexander Gadderar desires to be reconciled to the kirk for the slaughter of Alexander Symond, as also reconciliation with his wife (widow), friends and barnis, whom he is willing to satisfy by the advice of the minister and eldaris. Compeared Issobell Geddes relict of the said Alexander Symond. The eldaris fix the assythment and satisfaction to the said wife and bairns at four score merks money. On payment of this sum Issobell Geddes to give security he salbe scaithless of her.

11th August.—Issobell and Margaret Tailzeour, the daughters of —— Fyndlay and the said Fyndlay hir selff to do thair repentance on Sonday nixt for thair publict flytting and frequent skailding on the calsay vnder the payne of fywe pundis. Sic persons as ar varnit not comperand to be wairdit.

Jeane Douglas, daughter of the late Mr Alexander Douglas, provost of Elgin and his spouse Agnes Leslie, to be married to John Man of Trowis.

Ce tane of the towns folk promeist to big the Kirkzaird dyik, south syid, within fyvetein dayis under the pain of 40s John Bony-

man to big sex futtis in lenth and hycht as affeirs. Thomas Haye, merchand, promeist to big vii. futt as it aucht to be biggit in the place quhair himself hes use to stand, becaus it is doun. Others promise to build 6 to 8 feet.

Sic zettis and duris ar found stekit upoun the officiaris quhen thei pas through the toune on the Sabboth daye with the visitouis for imbringing the peopill to the sermon salbe callit dissobediens and puneist thairfoir.

Patrik M'Gregor, the laird of Grant's page, accused of hitting a woman between the shoulders with a two handed sword scabbard.

Preparatioun to the Fast. The eldarschipe ordanis the bell to pas through the toune upoun the xxi. day of this moneth dischargand all preparatioun of meatts on Sondaye nixt bayth at eftir and foir noon bot a generall fast and abstinence to be that day through the haill toune and all personis to convein to the preaching and that ther be na kynd of pastyme or ony carnal (?) varks bot all to giff thame selffis to humiliatioun and prayer under the pane of ten lib.

25th August.—Alexander Annand and Robert Innes promeist to assist the officiar to poynd the tennents of Pluscarden anent the bell silver.

8th Sept.—James Reid accusit of going about the feilds on Sondaye wes aucht dayis the tym of the eftir noones sermoun quha ansuerit and deponit on his conscience that he wes suirlie informit befoir of sum guidis that wes appeirand to do skayth him in the cornes. It is appointit and ordanit that sick of the eldaris as mitigat and deducis be thair voitting ony part of penalteis contenit in the assembly buiks sall pay alsmekill out of thair awin purs as they mitigatt and deduce of the

samyn. George Duncan accusit for byding fra the kirk the tym of the se moun tuk it vpoun his conscience that he vantit ane playid to put about and that ves his stayine. All kynd of pastyme during the harvest on Sondayes forbidden bot onlie a soberetie and fasting, prayers and invocatioun to be obseruit during the samyn.

8th September.—Anent leadis and burdeins. A proclamatioun be sound of the hand bell to be maid upoun Saterday nixt that na persoun or personis outher townisfolks, cuntrymen or strangeris trawell on the Sabboth day with any leads, burdeins or ony other cariage under the pane of paying of xs. Jhone Campbell convict for being in his zaird efter the hyndmost bell.

30th September.—Johne Gauld confessit his absens from the sermon afoirnoone the last Sondaye and therfoir is convict in the penaltie.

10th November.—A proclamatioun to be done upon Satterday nixt aganis all strangeris that remanis begging in this toun and the puir contanit within the puir folks roll to be warnit to be heir on Frydaye nixt to be admoneist to haunt and remane within the kirk on the Sabboth dayis and not to be found on the calsay begging vnder the paynes of deleiting of thair names furth of the roll.

A ticket for admonitioun of the fischaris and the buyaris of fische the tym of preaching on the preaching dayis.

11th Nov.—It is appointit that there be uplift and poyndit of all the women that wes summoned to compeir that compeirit nocht this day for their contumacie 6s 8d for buying fische vpoun Wednisday the tyme of preaching.

17th November.—Walter Leslie, tailzeour for deforcing the officer when poynding a plaid for his (Walter Leslie's) absence from the sermon is made to stand next Sonday during the sermon afoirnoone in the joggis and hair clayth and to stand in the steipill till evening.

26th November.—It is appointit that all personis within this burgh of whatsomeuir estait that movis discord or dissentioun eftir tryall sall pay V. libs money besyd thair repentance to be maid on a stuill anent the pulpit that sall be maid to that effect.

8th December.—Comperit Isbell Thomsone, alias Preinak, quho being accusit of the minister and elderis for charmeing of sindrie and diuers young children within this burgh, amongis quhome scho charmeit Gordounes young barne, quho denyit the samyn, notheles Cristiane Sutherland, Johnne Gordounes wyiff wowit (avowed) in hir face that scho gaif command to hir nureische to wesche hir barne with irne vre and sunddre schinders, and said that thes Isbell Thomsone bad hir reproue Grissall Urnall, and the barne wald be the bettir. Cristane Sutherland awows that scho kinkit with ane key in hir hand thryis upon the cruik in the kitchie, also Cristane Sutherland said the gudwyif of Cumzeachis boig cam to her hous to stay the vomit of his barne, and sayis that scho spak wordis ouer the child. Comperit Isbell Young, spous to Alexander Grant, and declarit that this Thomsoun pat hony, vinager and butter altogidder as scho said to hir to haue put about hir young barne, bot scho refuisit, yet nochttheless the said Isbell Thomsone maid a certane commixtioun of oyle and vther thingis and left the same in a kan with hir nuireische, quhilk the said Isbell neuir usit, and the said Isbell Young brought with her the said kan to the session. This Preinak confessis that Andro Gordounes wyiff send for her to mak a plaister to hir barne, and scho maid the same

of sawine, rossat, walx, blak peppir, hony, and caramell, and layd the same to the barne to stay hir barne uncassin, and weshe the said barne with ane blak clout. This Preinak confessis that scho oyilit Nicoll Vatsounes hand, and that it wes oyle peter that wes layid to his hand, and scho got for hir paynes 6s 8d money, and this oile scho bocht at Sanct James day befoir. Magy Young seruitrix to Henrie Kemptis wyiff awouit in the said Preinak's face that scho maid a droggerie of black woll, quhilk scho krissit with kairdis and pat the samyn in a pane mixit thair with aquavytie, raw hony and seithet thame altogidder, and (put) the same to umquhill Mr William Clarkis breist a lytill befoir he deit, and Elspet being seruand woman affirmes the same, and this eftir being suorne awouit the same in hir face, whilk scho confest her selff. Scho confessis that scho gaiff spurge and pouder corne to William Youngis barne a lang tym bygane and bad weshe him with irne vre. Isbell Smyth, the relict of umqll. James Thomsoun, denyit that scho culd charme.

All personis as bydis behind the secund bell fra the kirk to be estemit as absent, and sall pay penaltie thairfoir.

15th December.—The Sessioun inhibits all personis within this burgh to vse ony kynd of pastyme in the place callit the Chanonry Kirk zaird therof from Wedinsday nixt to the tenth day of Januarie nixt thaireftir, and all conventiounes within the samyn under pane of 40s. to be tane up of euery housholderis geir, and every servand 10s. money to be applyit *ad pios usus*, besyd thair publict repentance, and also inhibits all guysing and dancing within this toun at any tyme heireftir under the paynes of fyve lib. to be uplift of ilk houshalder within quhais hous the samyn is done, and alsmekill to be tane up of the contraveneris thairof giff thai be responsall, utherwayis to be puneist in thair personis,

and ilk ane of thame to mak ther publict repentance thairfor within the paroche Kirk of this burgh.

22nd Dec.—It is aggreit be the eldaris that the scollaris at the Grammer Schole be not molestit or put out afoir Frydaye nixt, agane the qlk day Thomas Hay sall luik out the Act maid anent the laking of the skuill.

29th Dec.—Several parties accused of using of pastimes in the Kirkyard. Moderators appointed for a general taxation to repair the Kirk floor and other places.

19th Januar.—Comperit Walter Hay, goldsmith, accusit for playing at the boulis and golff upoun Sondaye in the tym of the sermon, and hes actit himselff fra this furthe vnder the paynes of fyve lib. nocht to commit the lyik outher afoir or eftirnone the tym of the preaching.

The elderschip [finds they are competent judges of slanders and to punish parties therefor, according to the power ecclesiastical committed to them by His Majesty, reserving His Majesty's power to punish them criminally. Slanderers to pay £100 and make public repentance], and this for the makeris of coquilanis.

2nd Feb.—James Ogilvy to give answer anent the hospitall hous on Frydaye nixt.

16th Feb.—Horner callit Alexander Fraser to remane in waird quhill he fynd cautioun that he sall nocht ressaue vagabundes idill nor stranger beggaris to ludging. Grissell Johnestoun for her contempt to be put in the steipill and thair to remane quhill scho fynd cautioun to fulfil the act maid anent movaris of trubels.

9th March.—William Murray and John Warden sall big in this ouk ten futtis of the Kirkzaird dyik betuix thame under the paynes of 40s. Johnne Ros promeist to big iiij futtis within aucht dayis.

Sic peopill in landward as hes not yet cum in to the examinatiounes after lawfull intimation from the pulpit to pay—ilk zeman man 13s. 4d., ilk cotter iijs 4d.

1597.

25th March.—The haill eldaris hes prom ist a boll lyme ilk ane of them to sparge the Kirk withall.

27th March.—In Pluscarden. That ilk daye in presens of ane hundreth personis within the said queir of Pluscarden eftir the examinationes thairin compeirit Andro Wright in Nether Byiris and Elspet Peirsoun and with advice of their parents ratified and affirmed ane promeis of marriage to be performed as soon as banns proclaimed under pain of £20.

Witnesses examined as to the slander of John Laing's wyff that she was seen to carry out of the Kirk a dead man's head.

1st April.—James Kay complains against George Duncan for slandering him as a spy to the Earl of Caithness anent the taking of Thomas Stewart, servitor to Mackintoische. The eldars finds the said James to be honest and clean and forgives the said George, considering he was already punished for that.

6th April.—The haill four quarteris of this toun sall cum in this ouk about the tym of evening prayeris to be catechised. Sonday nixt sal be the celebratioun of the communioun an the body of the Kirk vpoun tabillis set therfoir, and for the mair comelie order to be obseruit it is appoyntit that nane cum to the sacrament bot sic as hes bein present at the heiring of the word immediatlie afoir and that nane cum to the heiring of the word bot sic as sall communicat

and to that effect the Kirk duiris sall be closit at the ending of the last bell and remane sa till the actioun be endit. Thair sal be ministration thairof in the morning and another preaching preceiding the ministration at nyn houris.

14th April.—Thair sall a man await for the ressait of the taikinnis and another the cheriteis.

22nd April.—Walter Aulcorne being desyrit to communicatt excusit himself that he mycht not be resoluit with his conscience be ressoun of the gryit injurie and wrang he sustenit of James Ogilvy. The said James being present ansuerit that the question betuix thame in ony mater outher of geir or land wes contentit to refer the decisioun thairof to ony honest man in the north of Scotland.

Gif Magy Tailzeour le fund heirefter a dancer on the calsaye or a singer scho sall be puneist.

26th April.—Agnes Smyth the dauchter of Alex. Smyth within this burgh being accusit of new upoun the doingis and proceidingis quhen scho wes nureische to James Anderson anent the said Agnes confessioun done at the command of umqll. Janet Cumming, suspect witche, and gif scho quho brocht the said Cuming to the said James hous, the said Agnes deponit upoun hir conscience that Elspet Corsour wes the convoyar of the said Cuming to James Andersons hous and the deponer said that the said Corsour said to her that William Young his bairn wes helpit be the said Cummyng and that sche culd helpe James Anderson's barne and also sayis that the said Corsour brocht watter out of Scheinakis well to wesche James Anderson's bairn with or that Cummyng cam to wisie the barne and forther the said Smythis confessioun whilk scho maid

afoir the eldaris heiranent of the daitt 1594 zeiris already registrat in this buik being reid scho ratefeis it. Comperit Elspet Corsour being sworne confessit that scho said to Grissall Urnall, James Anderson's wyiff, and to the said Agnes Smyth nurische that Janet Cumming veshe William Youngis bairn and that scho thocht scho culd helpe hir bairns. The deponer confirmis that the said Grissell and hir nurische causit her gang for the said Cuming and at thair desyir scho zeid for hir to thame and that scho cam and depons that the said Cummyng veische the bairne and that said Grissell saw the barne weshin and also the dependent sayis that the said Grissall and his nurische bad the deponent bring watter out of Scheinak's well whilk is besyd Meftis and that scho zeid thair and haid with her ane woman callit Phipe the gadie quho buir the watter in her hand unspokin and the deponer zeid besyid her and spak thais quhome they mett and sayis that she veshe the chyild thairwith and maid meat thairwith to the chyild and the nurische drank thairof and forther the said Corsour confessis and sayis that Cumyng bad the nurische convoy the first watter quhairwith the child wes weshin to a rynnand watter and mair sayid partlie in the nurische face that the said nurische said for remeid to the bairne gif hevin wer besyid hir and hell on the other syid scho wald laif hevin and lopp in hell and this preceiding confessioun maid be Cossour scho allowit all in the said nureische face bot the said nurische denyit syndrie partis thairof.

29th April.—The eldaris ordanis 6s 8d to be upliftit of all sic persons as cam not, being warnit. Jhone Nauchtie accusit of vitchcraft hes actit himself to compeir befoir the minister and eldaris of Elgin under the pain of death, and taking upon him the crym quhairof he is chargit.

6th May.—Comperit Patrik Dunbar of Sanquhar, and producit ane testimoniall wrettin be Maister Alexander Haye, minister at Duppill, of the proclamation of the banns of the said Patrik with Katherein Cummyng, lawful dauchter to Johnne Cummyng of Ernsyid, younger, nochtheles the said Katherein deponit upoun hir conscience that scho knew not nor consentit to the proclamation of thair banns, and decernit that scho wald nevir consent to mary the said barroun of Sanquh ir.

Adam Scott, accusit of playing on the Sabboth daye at the tym of the eftirnoone's sermoun at the bouells, ordanit to paye for dissobeyand the officiars 6s 8d, and gif he beis fund relapsit heirin to pay 20s.

18th May.—Janet Warden accusit for being on Sonday the tym of preaching in the Channonrie Kirk at hir prayeris, quha ansuerit that scho mon ga thair to pray for hir freindis departit. Continewis till the minister's hame cuming hir repentans.

Joksoun sall remane in the steipill quhill he fynd cautioun to stand in the joiggis and in sackclayth for giffin iniurious words to Alexander Boyne, ane of the Magistratis.

25th May.—The names of the new elders and deacons to be proclamit from the pulpit that all objecting may come forward. Comperit Elspet Reache, a woman borne in Innermarkie, in Glenmarkie, quho wes accusit for giving counsell to the seik to helpe thame be witchcraft, quho denyit.

27th May.—Grisall Jhounestoun sall mak her publict repentans ij seuerall Sondayis, and being relapsit heireftir to stand in the jouggis and to be baneist furith of this toun. Williame Pattoun and Thomas Duff, gardneris in the College, hes actit thame under the payne of 40s that nather of thame sall sell

ony unzeannes or kaill on the Sabboth daye, ... nor yet sall gang to mak publict or privat prayer by the Channonrie Kirk.

Alexander Cumming in the Colledg sall nocht pray in the Chanonry Kirk under the paynes of payment of 40s.

Alexander Winchester, skynner, gif he beis fund playand kyillis in ony tyme cuming heireftir sall pay 10s, and mak his repentance. It is appointit and ordanit that all the induellaris of this burgh be forbidden and inhibit to ludge and ressaue ony strangeris, except for a nicht, unless they advyse the baillie of that quarter under the paynes of x lib.

The said daye the minister producit the commissioun fra his Majestie purchest aganis vitches aud counsalaris with thame.

Patrik Dunbar, sometyme of Sanquhar, and Katherein Cummyng ratify a promise of mariage to be within twenty days. To mak thair publict repentance on Sonday next.

29th May.—The eldaris that convenit on Fryday this day sa mony of them that ar convenit promesis to giff the allegit vitche wyiff meat and drink the day about viz. [8 of them] and the minister sall gif her ij plak and watter during her remanying in the steipill.

31st May.—It is appointit that thair be a particular divisioun of ilk elders quarter and that they pas thair quarteris on the Sabboth daye betuix the secund and last bell and that they may mair francklie execut thair callingis in that part the baillies present committis the power to execut therintill as thai have the occasion.

1st June.—Comperit Walter Innes, James Rynd, William Stalker, Alex. Cumming, William Pattoun, Williame Tarras, Paul Dunbar, euerie ane of the saids gairdineris ar becum actit conjunctlie that they sall not sell

nor giff ony unzeounes or kaill or pull thame on the Sabboth daye nor zit transport thame that daye under the paynes of xls. and making of thair repentance.

The new loft is appointit onlie for the baillies, elderis and consall to sit in and a officier to await vpoun the duir thairof.

15th June.—Sic personis as ar warnitt to compeir to this day to heir and see thame selffs warnit to big sa mony fuittis of the kirkzaird not compeirand sall be poindit of 6s 8d.

1st July.—A generall inhibition of all persones within this burgh to sell fra this furth upoun the Sabboth day ony kaill plants or unzeounes or to pull or transport thame under the payne of paying of 20s. *ad pios usus* besyd ther repentance and this to be intimat be sound of the bell through the toun and the geir to be schattit.

6th July.—Walter Innes, my Lord, and Isbell Graye, servitrix, ratify a promise of marriage.

Thomas Hardie sall pay 6s. 8d. becaus he cam nocht in the tyme to gadder the almes to the puir on Sonday last.

The inhabitants to have intimation by the handbell that none receive Alexander Fraser, excommunicate, into thair houses under the pain of 5 lib.

10th July.—Alexander Robertsoun and —— Symond, the cutler, the ane to be put in the nether joiggis and the uther in the over joggis for going furth out of the kirk to pas thair tyme at port boullis the tyme of preaching.

It is appointit that the haill eldaris convene on Sonday next and as lang as they continue eldaris [elders were then elected annually] at the head of Corsinnanis wynd at the first bell and search their quarters, under the pain of 6s 8d.

Nine persons promise to build part of the kirkyard dykes.

27th July.—Comperit Jhone Fairer in the Grein gaif in a bill of complaint upoun Androw Spank and befoir ony proces wes grantit him he was commandit to confes the manner of the seiknes and disease of his guidis and of his awin seiknes and quhome he suspectit thairfoir the same. The said Johnne being suorne thairupoun confessit that Jhone Layng in Cauldhame promeist to do him ane evill turne and thairefter the said Johne awouit the same that thair was ane reid kow of the said Johne Faireris that haid a sueit upoun hir back lyik to droppis of bluid that vsit to come furth sindrie tyme through hir skin and said also that the said Johne Fairer himself tuik gryt seiknes thairefter. The deponer said that this Layng's mother ves ill spokn of and bruitit of vitchcraft. Androw Spank alledgit that this Faireris wyiff cam furth in a beir seid morning and haid hir hair about her ene and ther followit upon that ane ox of Thomas Hayis that wes drawand in the pleuche that this Spank wes earand with tuik gryt seiknes and fomit at the mouth and thairefter the said Andro Spank him selff fell seik and is not qualefyit thairoff as zit as the said Spank alledgis and sayis the boy that wes draiffer of the said oxin will testifie, quhilk the said Androw sall bring in with him the next day.

29th July.—Thomas Hepburne accusit of denying almes to the puir bred (collecting box). He ansuerit stubbornlie to the officer that he wes not awand ocht to the minister nor eldaris. He offerit to pay half a merk to the puir, refusit to do the same, and he is appointed to remane in ward till he pay the collector 26s. 8d.

3rd August.—Follows the registration of the Commission grantit to the minister, eldaris, prowest, and bailleis of Elgin be his Maiestie

[summary]: James, by the grace of God, King of Scots, &c., Whereas the exercise of discipline within the Kirk of God is greatly decayed thir mony years bygane throughout the haill partis of our realm and within the parish of Elgin, where the civil magistrate to whom the execution of our Actis of parliament properly appertanis hes not been sa careful in putting of the same to due execution as he aucht, We constitute the provost and baillies and the elders conjunctlie our Justices within the haill bounds of said parish Kirk and parish of Elgin with full power to put to due execution our Acts of Parliament, constilaws, and ordinance whatsoever made by us or our predecessors, especially Acts for profanation of the Sabboth day, raising of tumnilts within kirks or kirkyards, fornication, blasphemy, and other slanders whatsomever . . . with power to amerciate and to poynd . . . "Oure will is theirfoir and we charge yow all and sundrie the perrochiners of the said perroche Kirk of Elgen, alsweill without as within the territories of the said burgh of quhat estait or degre soeuir ye be and all utheris quhome it effeiris that ye readilie ansuer, intend, obey to our saidis justices in that pairte and ilk ane of thame conjunctlie and severallie in all and sindrie things tends or quhilkis may tend to the dew execution of our saidis actis of Parliament . . . our lettres gevin under our signett and subscryvit with our hand at hailie ruid hous" the 9th December 1595. Registered in the books of Privy Council 9th Dec. 1595.

Andro Hoissack in Over Manbeins and remanentis duellaud within that toun being suorne to gif up delation and in speciall the said Andro to declair upoun his conscience if euir he haird his wyiff bruitit of witchcraft quha ansuerit that George Warrand his nichtbour in his flytting callit her witche, that passit in the likness of a e bee

quhilk thing my wyiff and myself complainit upoun him to the Session. George Warrand th re being suorne deponit that Andro Gordon and Archibald in Elgen said that they hard ane callit Roy (?) quha dwelt in Mostowie saye that this Andro Hoissakis wyiff callit Meget Layng appeirit upone a certane tym in the lyknes of ane be and zeid in with a zirning and incontinent as he tuk (?) doun the zirming and pat in (?) under ane tub scho returned in her awin schaipe agane. William Mitchell being suorne deponit that he hard that this —— raye suld caus sic ane bruit as that Jhonne Mill in Over Manbeins and David Hoissak thair being suorn deponit that Georg Warrand and wyiff in thair flyting callit this Meget Layng ane witch bot they hard of na particular thing.

5th August —Two honest men to go through the town on the Sabbath with the officers for visiting the absents from the Kirk, from the last bell be rung to the sermone till the sermone be endit and that the saids visitors try all uther enormities and faults sa far as they can perceive.

12th August.—It is ordanit that the mekill oppin places quhilk ar the maner of windo's above the cors ll loft as also the ∞ in the steipill be branderit with tymmer and ordanis the same to be done in the nixt ouk and Alexander Pringill appoyntit to aggree with ane wricht. George Kay, cordiner, accusit of prophaning the day of the Lord be playing upoun Sondaye last the port boulls neuir to commit the lyik in tymes cuming. The tua Alexander Millis also delatit.

17th August.—Robert Malleis in Glakmarras complenit upoun Andro Dik that the said Andro had sclanderit him with witchcraft quhilk being conferrit to the said Androwis aith confessit that he prayit mallesonis to the said Robert for ressauing of

his kow tane for the custome meal, for speking of the quhilk the eldaris juges him in the wrang and thairfoir the said Androw askis the said Robert mercie and hes promeist neuir to do the lyik under the paynes of publict repentance.

19th August.—Thair is layid be the eldaris, taxtlayers appointit that thair be a taxation of ane hundroth punds tane up out of the haill paroche baith to burgh and landward (except out of Pluscarden) and ilk pleuche layid to saxtein schill ngis. The burgh of Elgin layid to the ane half thairof and the landward to the uther half of the samyn.

24th August.—The names of the taxatioun layaris for the towne anent the bigging of the loft to the landward in the west end of the Kirk of Elgin the sowme thairof is fyiftie punds viz. William Innes, elder, [and six others].

26th August.—It is speciallie appointit and concludit be the elderschipe that na persoune of quhat estait or degre soeuir they be within this paroche seik to have ony conferens with thais that ar suspect of witchcraft and speciallie with thais that ar apprehendit thairfoir under the payne of making of thair publict repentans in sackclayth and to that effect that nane pretend ignorance thairof the samyn is ordanit to be publeishit be the sound of the hand bell through this toun inhibiting all persounes in manner forsaid, under the saidis paynes. All persounes refusaris almous to the puiris bred to be summondit agane Wednisday nixt viz. Thomas Ga &c.

John Innes excommunicat of new agane to be publeishit be sound of the hand bell through the toun that na man within t e paroche have ony doing or conference with him and that na inhabitant of this burgh ressaue him in thair houssis in ony tym cuming under the paynes of ten poundis and thair repentance publictlie.

12th August.—It is appointit that four eldaris and tua baillies with the four officiaris pas throche the haill toun ilk Sondaye and searche thair quarters and for this caus the officiaris to have the name of the eldaris in wreitt quhairby they may be chairgit ilk Sattirdaye at ewin orderlie vicissim. The deacounes ar augmentit with Thomas Richartsone quha haiffin the cair of the puir of this burgh, quhais names ar contenit in aue roll assisit with a baillie and tua eldaris sall sit doun and convein ilk Wednesday eftir sermone in the Kirk and call the said puir afoir thame and try thame quhow they have keipit the sermones, morning and evening prayeris and behaued themselues utherwayis throch the toun sen that daye aucht (dayes) and in this meyntyme to chois out ane man to be thair officer. Intimationn furth of the pulpit to be maid on Sondaye next to reserve the loft for the baillies, consale, and elderis and easment of strangeris. John Corsour, "Glangoun," and others for perturbing the kirk last Sunday the same being also a day of fast, to remane inward till they find caution to compeir on Sondaye next.

28th August. — Margat Vinchester and Margaret Lochhilles, inhabitantis of the colledge, ar accusit for not repairing to the Sondayes sermonis quhilk is preachit within this kirk quho ar appointit to be restit quhill they find cautioun to haunt the samyn as occasioun effeiris. Elspet Mill complenit to the sessioneris vpoun Stephin Jhonestoun quhome scho allegis molestit hir in the place quhair scho sett the tym of the sermone this day and gaif hir injurious vordis quhilk the elderschipe hes tryit and fand the same to be trew. Lyikas also the said Stephin gaue the said Elspet the lie in thair presens and thairfoir the saidis elderis adjugis him in the wrang and to haue offendit baith to them and to the compleiner, for the whilk he is appointit on Sonday nixt to confess his offens and craue

pardon thairfoir, lykas the said Stephen hes promeist to do.

2nd September.—It is summeisit be sum of the eldaris that Alex. Poynd's wyiff haid spokin that sche wald ding James Andersoun's vyf, wherupoun the eldaris desyrit the said Alexander to caus his wyiff compeir afoir thame on Sonday next efter the sermone and ansuer thairfoir quhilk thing the said Alexander promeist to do and that in respect it is allegit scho spak by her deutie aganis the minister.

A promeis of the Gardneris. Comperit Paull Dunbar, Williame Stalker, Williame Tarres, and Thome Duff accusit upoun the sayingis whair they said that this kirk is nocht thair perroche kirk denyit all and promeist to haunt the sermonis quhilkis ar to be preachit in this kirk gif iust occasion stayit them nocht. Margaret Lochhillis promeist to keipe the sermonis under the pain of vs.

4th September. — Patrik Rattray becam cautioun that James Rob sall learne the xii articles of the fayth betuixt this and Mertimes next under the paynes of 40s. William Froster, in Glakmarras, in lyk maner is becum cautioun for — Herrald that he sall lerne his beleiff betuix this and the said day.

7th September.—It is appointit that Alexander Lyndsaye, William Mihe and induellaries of Mekill Innerlochtie be poyndit of half ane merk for ther disobens and working on the Sabboth day.

4th October.—A day off fast and abstinence to be upoun Sonday next and the samyn the morne to be proclamit be sound of the hand bell throche the toun.

5th October. — Convenit the minister, baillies and haill elderis and accusit mony of the inhabitantis of this burgh quho comperit for not keiping the Sabboth day in heiring of the sermons and speciallie for being absent on Sondaye last outher afoir or eftirnoone and sic personis as culd not purge them selffis be thair aithis ar committit to waird in the stepill thairin to remane ay and quhill they paye half a merk of thair geir and gif they contempne and becum incidents to be duplicat toties quoties, and sic personis as payis nocht half a merk sall stand in the steipill quhill Frydaye nixt upoun bread and watter.

7th October.—Sic personnes as ar contempners of the word and cumis not the sermones afoir and efter none on the Sabboth dayis salbe callit afoir the Sessioun and without ane lauchfull excuis admitted be the Sessioun sall stand xlviii. howris in the steipill or ellis to redeme them selves be half ane merk.

9th October.—Convenit the minister and all the haill elderis within the queir and callit befoir thame Agnes Fleming, spous to Jhone Angous, and accusit hir speiking within the kirk the tyme of the psalme and vsing conferens, quhilk being provin and confessit scho is adjudgit to be arreistit in the queir quhill scho pay vis viiid of penaltie to the puir and also upoun Sondaye next thairefter to mak her publict repentance.

14th October.—William Skynner to remane in the steipill and then to be put in the joggis quhill Sondaye nixt and thereftir to mak his publict repentans in sackcloth for his drunkinness and injuring Robert Innes, ane elder, and trubling of Agnes Hardie a widow under silence of the nicht and contempning the actis of the Sessioun and dissobeying the tounis officiaris and gif he euir heireftir committ the lyik offence to be put in the joiggis.

It is tryit that John Layngis sone and John Makean's sons kest stans at James Crantis quhyit the tym of the sermoun.

26th October.—Katecheising to begin on Mononday at ewin next the tyme of prayeris.

11th November.—James Young, James Patrik, and Williame Innes declairit that they had wisited thair quarteris and haid warnit dyvers for want of the catecheis buik to compeir this day and giff a reasoun thairfoir. It is appoyntit that thair be a new electioun of elderis and to that effect all the elderis to be summondit and warnit to be present at the catecheising. The letters aganis Forres for manteining mercat on the Sabboth dayis to be socht and printed (?) and also the commoun letters for repairing the queir.

24th November —Present—the minister, 14 elders and 2 upland elders. For buith durris opining. It is appointit that thair sal be sex schillingis aucht pennies money exactit of all theis that oppinis thair buyth durris on Wednisdayes the tym of the sermone as it were for doing of the lyik on Sondayis and the same penaltie to be tane up fra all maisteris of houssis that beis found absent fra the Wedinsdayes sermons (except thair be a lauchfull excuis). Item sic personis as beis not found in the kirk at the third chept of the third bell sall be comptit absents and poyndit as absents that is for vis. and viiid. of thair redeast geir. Item thair is a penaltie appoyntit to be giffin to Anthone Forster of the next that happenis to fall furth and he sall ding furth the doiggis out of the Kirk thairfoir. Robert Durie is creat Kirk officier and therupoun hes giffin his ayth *de fideli administratione officii* sa lang as he remainis in that office and quhill he be dischargit thairfra. The haill elderis hes electit nominat and chosin Alexander Annand, baillie, to be thair moderator of this assemblie

quhill the ministeris hame cuming quho hes obtenit licence to pas south in sic affairis as he maid knawin to the eldaris. And forther the haill eldaris haue actit thameselues to keipe thair awin and houris of the sessioune ilk Wedinsdaye Frydaye and Sundaye till the minister returne under the paynes of paying of halff merk *ad pios usus* and in caice the moderator be absent at sic tymes without a lawfull excuse he sall duplicat the penaltie and pay the same *ad pios usus* onforgiven.

24th November.—The minister and eldaris hawing consideratioun and respect to the ident and continuall trauellis maid and done be Robert Leslie thair sessioun clark in convening with thame twyse ilk ouk and wretting of thair actis of discipline upoun small chargis be the undiscretioun of dyvers that hes ado in the Sessioune, tharefoir they appointit statut and ordanit and be the tennour of this act appointis statutis and ordanis the said Robert to haue for the wreitting the act of ratificatioun of everie gentilmanis mariage in this Sessioune ten shillingis money, for the zeman soirt half merk and cottaris that mary and ar responsall vs. and for registring of euerie bairns name to be bapteist sall have tua schillingis money.

It is appointit that the haill inhabitantis of this burgh be warnit be sound of the handbell to buy catecheis sa lang as the merchantis ar in the toun and sic houshalders as wantis the said catecheis quhilk is nychtlie catecheised in the Kirk at the next visitatioun of the quarteris sall pay xls. of thair redeast geir. And so the assemblie ves dismissed with a thankis giffing to God.

4th December.—William Dauidson, baxter, and his wyfe wer found in thair housis the tyme of the foirnonis sermone and steikit thair durris vpoun the officieris therfoir the

said William committit to remane in waird in the steipill all this nicht and pay half merk to Robert Durne, officier, or he cum furth and mak his publict repentans on Sonday nixt and gif he beis found in lyk fault his penaltie and repentans to be doublit. It is also appointit that Robert Leslie gif the names of sic personis as beis absent fra evening catecheising to the baillies of that quarter and the baillie to sie thame poyndit of ijs. for ilk persoun absent thairfra.

7th December.—It is recommendit to the baillies to visie thair quarteris and report agane Frydaye quha hes the catheceis in thair quarteris.

9th December. — The deacounes to be poyndit for thair absens and no visiting the puir.

25th December.—The ane half of the eldaris convenit hes promeist instantlie to gang visie the enormiteis gif ony be in the place callit the chanonrie Kirk and zaird thairof the uther half and part of them with Baillie Allexander Annand to await on the cross that disordour or baudice be committed thair lyikas all the haill eldaris hes promeist to await that na offence be committit concerning the obseruatioun of superstitious dayis and vaniteis thairof and that specialie in respect ane proclamatioun thairof wes maid be sound of the handbell yisterdaye inhibiting all personis to haunt that or ony superstitious place within this perroche vnder the pain contenit in the actis maid thairanent of befoir and burnyng of thame on the cheik.

4th January.—Margaret Cumming is ordered by the Session to keep a honest and crafte behauiour in all her doingis for avoiding of sclander.

Alexander Annand, last Moderator in absence of the minister is found to have offended in neglecting to call before him the elders who kept not the meetings and convicting them in the penalty if guilty "in respect quhairof the Sessioun ordeins him to confess his offence and pay 6s 8d to Robert Durne, officier, as ane penaltie." The elders absent since the minister's south passing to be summoned.

6th January. — Catecheising vpoun the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to begin on Mononday at evin nixt and to continew quhill the Communion be ministrat; also it is appointit that the maisteris of houssis examyn thair servandis upoun the sermonis preachit

Anent Lauching.—The Sessioun hes appointit that quhatsumeuir persoun undir thair disciplein that giffis thame selues to schamefull and insolent lauching within the kirk the tyme of the preiching, prayers, and devyne service thay salbe citit befoir the Sessioun and thai being tryit and found guiltie of that fault sall pay ten s. money gif thai be responsall and ane dayis repentans utherwayis nocht responsall salbe puneist be the discretioun of the Sessioneris.

Walter Hay and Alexander Innes, confessing thair removing furth of the kirk this day afoir the ending of the sermoun, sall pay 6s 8d ilkane of thame conforme to the actis maid thairanent. The debaittabill actioun betuix Alexander Annand and Walter Auldcorn referrit to the morn at the morning prayeris. Sic personis as abyidis awaye fra the catecheising sall pay iis. of thair geir and be debarrit also fra the Communion.

29th Jan.—The south-west fourt part fra the Provest to the Sheriffis hous to be warnit to the morning prayeris.

3rd Feb.—Sonday nixt cumes a day of fast and abstinence, and Sonday thaireftir the first day of the Communion. The sowth syid sall communicat first and sic of the landward as hes ressauit thair taikyins. Sic personis as past furth of the kirk the tym of the sermoun to be warnit.

8th February.—The south east quarter that ar alredie cathecheisit to be summondit agane eftir none to ressaue thair taikyins. Sattirday next the tables to be set and the elderis appoyntit to wisie thair quarteris of the toun.

10th February.—For observing of a comelie ordour in the congregation the tyme of the Communion thair is appoynit that all the elderis of the north syd of the toun avait on the Communion and serving thairof and for dischairging of thair dewteis sall appoynt Alexander Pringill and William Gibsoun to avait on the Kirk dur and William Innes younger and Alexander Innes to avait on the queir dur to ressaue almes and taikyins and for a meitting thairof the elderis of the south syid sall avait on the serving of the time thairof the next Sonday.

17th February.—It is statut and appointit fra this furth be consent of all the elderis that euerie elder of this burgh have ane purse with ane brazyn mowthe that may collect certane penalteis of theis that swear and quhensoeuir thai atteache personis to ban or blaspheme the name of God and everie Sondaye as occasioun sall offer to mak ane compt thairof to the puir folks' collectour or sessioun and as the saids elderis salhappin to be remouit fra thair office the intrant sallt buy he samen purse at the same pryce it cost and so furth continuallie. The elderis of the south syid to visie thair quarteris to sie quha ar not zit communicat.

24th February.—All the puir folk ar forbiddin to haunt the kirk and kirkzaird on the Sondaye for seiking of thair almes under the paynis of deleitting thair names of the roll.

2nd March.—The elders to consult the kirk as to Alexander Gadderar guilty of manslaughter in slaying Alexander Symond alias Robertsone Smyth. Alexander Pringill chosen moderator in the absence south of the minister. Elders not attending to pay 40d unless with lawful excuse.

8th March —Some of the elders fined for non-attendance.

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29th March —All the elderis hes concludit in ane voce that all the fixt stuilles for the women be rasit and put furth out of the kirk betuix this and the day fyvetein dayis.

5th April.—Johnne Gordoun, gudman of Corridoun is appointit kirk maister to be assistit with John Bonyman and James Patrik and the bailleis to delyver to him the taxatioun silver for the loft bigging and ane ticket to be maid vpoun same bill as he ressauis fra thame.

7th April.—Johnne Gordoun and Johnne Bonyman to speik William Duff anent the hame bringing of the daillis.

8th April (Saterday).—Convenit the elderis in the queir at the evening prayeris.

12th April.—William Allan, cutler, accusit as ane persoun unworthe his residence amongis the inhabitantis of this burgh, quhilk is notourlie knawn to syndrie of this seat. He consents voluntarlie to remove himself furth of this burgh and to remane ane exyle furth of the samyn in all tymes.

14th April.—William Douglas, vicar of Elgin, complained against Katherein Duff, spous to Thomas Gall, cordiner. She called

him "ane auld doitit d——l," but pleaded in extenuation that she said the words "in a hamelie manner" and thought that he would not be offended. The Session put Katherein in the joggis.

23rd April.—The boy callit Haye zit unbapteizit in Thomas Hayis hous. The said boy is appoynted to lerne the articulis of his beleiff betwix this and Fryday next and sall lerne the Lord's prayer betuix this and this day aucht dayis, utherwayis to be remouit furth of this burgh.

7th May.—The Moderatour desyrit the merchantis and the haill honest men of this burgh to be present the morne to gif thair adwyse anent the ratefeing (?) of the richt thay have to all the uphaland mercattis round about thame.

12th May.—Ordeins the officiar to pas through the toun and charge the honest men of this burgh to convein at xi houris and search the toun anent the misliklie found in the Blak Freir zaird of the grave neuley maid as it wer for a dead chyld.

21st May.—John Young alias Lytill John for heich speiking to his nichtbours the tyme of the preaching and being reprovit be Maister Alexander Hay, minister, ansuerit proudlie again. It is thocht a greivous fault and feindill the lyik euir wes committed in this congregatioun. He is appointed to appear on the stuill and then before the pulpit and confess his offence. It is statut that if any do the like again to be wardit 24 hours in the stepill, pay a penalty and if relapsed sall be put in the stocks.

28th May. — Johne Bonyman, searcher, ansuerit that thair wes folkis drinkand in Thomas James at the last bell also that Elspet Richertsoun, George Cullanis wife, wes fra the Kirk the tyme of the sermoun and so ves Isbell Foulertoun, also that the searcharis

declarit that they convenit with Thomas Hayis the merchandis servandis, passand throche the toune with schoulis on thair schulderis to spred muk the tyme of the preiching eftir none on Sonday. Being summoned the servants—two women and a man — compeared, and pleaded a special necessity as their master had hired landward ploughs to ear (plough) the field. Thomas was a deacon of the church but he and his servants had to confess "on the stuill."

5th July.—The Sessioun commands Robert Leslie to bapteis Jhonne Innes, elder, M'Laren's infant, notwithstanding of the excommunication past aganis him for airt and pairt of the slaughter of wmqll. William Hay and Agnes Leslie. The bairns of persons excommunicat for religion, however, not to be baptized.

21st July.—Andro Stalker, goldsmith.

18th August.—James Rynd to pay £20 for drawing a dirk in the Kirk to his wife and offering to cut his wife's flesh fra hir baynis.

27th August (Sondaye).—It is appointit that the personis that wer notit vagand on the calsay the tym of the sermone this day be poindit instantlie.

3rd September.—Ane inquisitioun to be maid of sic personis as gois to the vode the tym of the sermoun on Sondaye afoir or eftr none and thaireftir to be puneist.

10th September.—All that prophaned the Sabbath day by shearing their corn to be summoned.

10th November. — Contract betuix the Sessioun and officiars. It is appointed and convenit betuix the minister and elderis on the ane part and the officiaris viz. Alexander Mill, Robert Keyth, Robert Durie and William Steill on the uther part in manner following, that is to say, the saidis officiaris sall tak sick payins vpoun thame quhairby they

promeis to bring the peopill of this burgh and the college to sick obediens as they sall compeir to the heiring of the word and compeiring to sessiones quhan they ar seruit thairto for the quhilkis the saidis minister and elderis promittis faithfullie to pay and deliuer to ilk ane of them zeirlie sa lang as they continew in office (and natheles) xls. money and in case the saidis officiaris be negligent and failzie at any tym in doing of thair dewteis eftir tryall they sall pay 6s. 8d. *toties quoties* and mak thair publict repentans besyde the penaltie. Sondaye cum aucht dayes a day of fast and admitting and receiving of elderis baith to burgh and land.

24th November.—Alexander Steuart was accusit for halding folkis in his clois the tyme of the hindmost bell and sermoun and thairfoir is appointit to forbeir the doing thairof and also inhibit to haiff his zet closit that tyme.

Number of elders—Landward 24, burgh 16, also 3 college elders and 5 deacons. The burgh was divided into four quarters—S.E., S.W., N.E., N.W.—a bailie being in each quarter as elder. The landward elders consisted of elders for Cauldhame, Dunkintie, Innerlochtie, Blackhills, Lynkvoids, Cauldcoattis, Barmukatty, &c.

10th December.—It is appointed that the landward elderis try ilk oulk the partis committed to thair charge and thair dilligence to repoirt at the leist ilk fyvetein dayis and the forme of thair tryall to be thus to inquyre specialie of thair parochioneris sic as they knaw to be dishauntaris of the Kirk, quhair they wer the last Sonday, quhat wes thair exerceis, quhidder gif they wer occupeit in hering of the worde, quhair they wer or quhat ves thair occupation and sic personis as they fund prophanelie occupeit and hes no sufficient reasoun of thair absens that

they poynd and summond them to compeir befoir the Session thair to be censouritt and siclyk to tak accomptis of seruandis quhat proffeit they mak of the worde, that they be chargit to repair ilk uther Sonday to the preaching and quhair thair is tua or thrie servandis in a familie that they cum thair Sonday about to the heiring of the word and forthair that the landward elderis intimate to the folks of ilk ane of thair boundis this order and that the seruandis that bydis away sall pay xiid for the first fault the cotter man and woman ilk ane of thame, and ilk zeman, man and woman, ather of thame xld.

14th December.—The elderis and minister ratifeis the actis maid anent the the inhibition of pastyme on the Sabboth day and haunting or using ony pastyme in the Chanonrie Kirk and yaird thairoff, especiallie fra the day and dait of thir presentis to the aucht day of Februar next (except the passing tyme at the futball) under the paynis of 5 lib. and publict repentans and specialie all connectioun of womenkynd is forbiddin and inhibit under the saidis paynis and publict repentans.

15th December. — Catecheising appoyntit nychtlie fra Monondaye and Mononday at evin to be the first nycht of thair beginning; ilk elder to cum with his part nightly at four hours.

Nycht walking and guysing forbiddin; drawing of stuillis and raippis the tyme of frost and ise forbiddin.

22nd December.—Taxation to be laid for reparation of the queir of the parish kirk of Elgin becum ruinous "for laick of help, quhilk umquhyle bishoppis of Murray wer in use to beit and repair." 800 merks laid for repairing in theck, ruiff, vallis, vindois. To be upliftit fra the fruictis of the bishoprik of Murray and Lordship of Spynie of the few-

maillis, teynd victuallis, fruittis &c. of the bishoprik of the crop and fruits of this year 1598.

30th December. — John Sampsoun and James Cruik accusit for drinking and guising in divers houses. They admitted they danced but not dammaskit nor disguysit. Appointed to stand on Sunday next in thair awin seat and make their repentance. George Kay accusit of dansing and guysing in the nicht on Monday last. He confessed he had his sister's coat upon him and the rest that were with him had claythis dammaskit about thame and thair faces blaikit, and they had a lad playand upon banis and bells with them. Arche Hay had a faise about his loynes and ane kerche about his face. Ordained to make repentance two Sundays "bairfut and bairleggit." George Kay confessit playing football under the night yesterday night.

5th January.—Sic personis within this congregation as hes haid voluntar conferrens with the excommunicat rebells that thai be inhibit eftir tryall to compeir at the table of the Lord till they satisfie the Kirk.

19th Jan.—The bell appointed to go through the toune to warne all sic personis as hes not ressauit thair taikynes to cum on the morne to get them.

20th Jan.—Communion. Two elders "for onvaitting on the offerand, and taikins appointit at the Kirk durs," also three elders "for abutting on the calsaye and keiping ane comelie ordour outwith the Kirk."

24th Jan.—It is appointit be the elderschipe that thair be paynis and travellis tane be thame to reconcile sic personis as ar at variance in thair bowellis for removing of all elestis (offences) amongis thame.

31st Jan.—Richard Wairden hes promesit to communicat at the next Communion under the payn of tuantie lib to be payit *ad pios usus.*

Feb. or March.—Licence grantit to bury John Annand of Murrestoun, who died this morning, in the quire of this Kirk because he has held public office and has been provest. His brother to pay ment the burial place.

[This was probably the last person, or among the last, to be buried within the Church of St Giles.]

4th March.—Bessie Corben and Grissall Johnstoun to be put in the joggis on Saturday next, and thair heads schavin.

7th March.—It is appointit that Grissall Jhonestoun and Bessie Corben be causit stand besyde the joiggis quhill thair headis be clippitt, and Gilbert Gadderer salbe the doar thairoff, and he sall haiff halff merk for his labours ilk tyme that he executs the lyke wark on tua persons, viz., xld the peice for his paynis.

11th March.—Ordenitt sic personis as had thair durris and zettis stekitt to be warnitt agane Frydaye. All personis within this burgh betuix quhome ony elestis remains to be warnitt for thair reconciliation befoir the ministratioun of the next dayis communion.

1599.

25th March. — Edward Auldcorne, alias Dutchman, accusit for his two sons playing at the cheaw in tyme of sermon.

30th March.—Na fishes to be sauld na day in the mornyng quhill the prayeris be said, nor zit na bouk of fishes to be brokin under the pains of confiscation of thame, sellaris and buyaris, besyd ane halff merk to be paid by buyaris. Haunteris of the Channonrie Kirk

to be tryit and puneished and siclyke the peopill that vses the superstitious becking in Sanct Gelis Kirk ilk day in the mornyng eftir thair awin prayeris are to be censured thairfoir. It is appointit that the handbell pass through the toun be quhais sound the fishe mercat befoir the prayeris salbe forbiddin under the paynis maid thairanent.

27th April.—It is appoyntit fra this furth that na persone or personis (except fische sellaris and cadgearis) remain in the fishe mercatt the tyme of prayeris, not zitt that na man or woman be vagand on the streittis, idlie sittand under stairis, or at pastyme on the calsaye under the paynis of 6s 8d, and that nane pretend ignorance heiroff the samyn ordinance to be intimat be sound of the handbell through this toun incontinent efteir our furth passing out of the session.

30th April — Johne Stewart, walkster, accusit for playing at the bowallis on the calsaye the tyme of the evenyng prayeris for the quhilk being reprovitt gentlie be William Innes, ane elder, the said Jhone gaiff him evill vordis, in respect quhairof the said John is ordanit to mak his publict repentance gif euir he beis apprehendit in the lyke offence. The bailleis hes promeist to have lead and oyle in redines the morne to be delyveritt to Alexander Gordoun, the lorimer, wherwith he may reull the knok and putt hir to the gang.

In a case before the Session it was reported that "the monk of Pluscarden bapteized the bairn."

6th May.—The Sessioun hes tane ordour with sum puir folk, viz., Thome Horner, ane Frendracht man, Jhone Straquhin in Balcherie, Kattie Stephin in Glass, Trimlaice Meggie, Gleyit Peddie, Gillandreiss. If this last beis fund beggand he salbe brynit on the cheik and baneist.

9th May.—The Monondayis pastyme and exerceis conforme to His Majesteis statutis is with consent of the Session admittit to be vsitt discreitlie and godlie prowyding that the mornyng prayeris be keipit or they go to exerceis and lykwayis the evenyng prayeris thaireftir, and specialie that the Wedinsdayis sermounis be keiped ilk Wedinsday and siclyk that the bailleis tak ordour that thair be no prophane stylis vsit amongis thame bot that the samyn be precislie inhibitt as also thatt they advyse quhome salbe admitt gouernours in this exerceis thatt all thingis may be done decentlie and weill.

11th May.—James Law appointit to bring on Sondaye eftir noone the lawis of the pastyme that the samyn may be sein and considerit be the minister and eldaris.

13th May.—The officers found gryt fault with for their slawnes in not poynding persons for absence this Sunday in respect of the gryt raritie of the convention. It is appointit that sic personis within this burgh as salhappin to go to thair pastyme on Monondayis befoir or eftirnoone sal kepe the prayeris at baith tymes and also it is statut be the advyse of minister and elderis that sic personis careis furth thair ensigneis eftir and gois to thair dansing and guysing and keipis not the prayeris salbe puneist.

16th May.—Richert Cuming, sone naturall to James Cuming, tailzeour in Elgin, is inhibit to haunt dycing or playing at the cairtis under the paynis of making his publict repentans.

18th May.—Comperit James Kay, quhome the elderis accusit for passing tyme and displaying the ensignies the tyme of the evening prayeris confessit the fault, but allegit that he haid not the bell, nochttheless he promeised to keipe gude ordour wnder the paynis of making his publict repentans.

20th May.—William Leang in Ardgy contemns the magistrates and officers by not coming to hear the sermon. He and his eldest son confess their offence to God and the kirk and promise never to commit the like again when they repair to this town under the pains of punishment in his body and gear.

26th May.—All unlesum pastymes on Monondayes to be abolished.

8th June.—Isbell Gray, for slandering Janet Winchester and calling her witch, to enter to her repentance in sackcloth.

10th June.—The officaris are commandit ilk Sonday to searche houses eftir the ringing of the first bell and to poynd eftir the secund bell.

13th June.—Alexander Fraser the horneris wyff and her housband confessit their being in thair hous the tyme of the sermon on Sonday. Alexander Sinclair's wyff committit to waird for haiffing folks in hir house the tyme of the sermonis on Sonday. Alexander Ross' wyfe and others committit to waird for removing out of the kirk. To remain till they pay half a merk. Cristen Auldcorne and three other women reprovit for thair louping on the calsaye.

15th June.—Some of the gardineris are licenciat to visie thair zairdis on Sondaye and to remove furth at the queir dure and haif ony officiar they may see with them. John Cowie ordanit to get ane lok to his hous dur quhairby his dauchter may come to the kirk on the Sondayis.

15th June.—It is appointit that thair sall sit ane honest man ilk Sondaye at the entrie of the new loft to stay the tumult and to keipe the formest seatt for the searcheris to sitt upon when thay cum in.

27th June.—The minister declarit to the elderis that the Kingis maiestie had wrettin for him to pas south thairfoir desyrit thair licence and grantit.

4th July.—Issobell Gray this day clad in sacclayth for making of her publict repentans for slander for misbehaveing hirself and ansuering so impenitentlie and accusing the sessioun of injustice in presens of the congregation quhen scho suld haif confessit her fault, thairfoir scho is appointit to be put in the joiggis quhairin scho sall remane ane houre on Saturday next as puneishment addit to her repentans in example of utheris to commit the lyke.

20th July.—Alexander Miln appoyntit to warn in the landward elderis againe for Wedinsday next and that they sall bring in delatioun of bydaris away from the Kirk, fornicatours and onbiggaris off Midsommer fyiris or ony wther wyces among them. Persons wer singand prophane sangis in David Gadeis hous yesterday.

27th July.—Hew Falconer in Innerlochtie declarit their wes a midsommer fyre bot culd not tell quho biggit it on.

29th July.—Thomas Hepburn in Innerlochtie delatis lytill children to be the onbiggaris of baill fyiris at Midsommer evin and hes promeist to warne in all his awin cottaris and seruandis agane Fryday next quho sall be examinat thairupoun.

3rd August.—The minister lamentis the coldnes of sum of the elderis exciting thame to be mair fervent in the caus of God and ilk ane of them provok and press forward utheris in their vocatioun seing of the Lord they sall resaue the recompens of thair traveills, exhortis thame in the fear of God to hald hand to the puneishment of sin.

5th August. — Thomas Haye, this day searcher of the over end of the toun quho fand fault with the cutlaris wyffe quho held the dur fast on hir and wald not suffer him to visie quha is in the hous with her the tyme of the sermoun, quhome the magistrattis committit to waird quhill scho find caution nocht to do the lyke or ellis act hir selff un er paynis of baneshment.

8th August.—Elspit Richertsone miscallit John Stewart in the kirk sayand Quhow is this that I can not be quhyt of ane mensworne tyke. She is to be put in joggs six hours and if again in fault to be banished.

George Vauis for opinying of his buith durris on the Sonday to pay 20s.

12th September.—Isbell Foularton to pay xld. for selling of drink the tym of the sermoun.

5th October.—It is appointit that the north kirk dur de opnit and a dur provydit thairto. William Gibson (and three others) haif promeist to big thair part of the Kirkzaird dyke.

10th October.—Robert Leslie, redar, is inhibit be the minister to bapteis ony bairnis at the mornyng prayeris on Sonday nouther to marie ony at that tyme and last of all inhibit to ressaue ony parteis befoir him.

14th October.—All sick (such) persounes as wer found in the Deane's zaird this daye the tym of the sermoun to be wairdit at the morning prayeris.

19th October.—The officiaris commandit to leasche the boyes at the cros that wer playand the tyme of the sermone.

26th October.—Alexander Steuart is becum caution that Grissall Bishope sall stand on the stuill and her hair about her een three Sondayes.

4th November. — The maisteris of the Grammer and ¡Sang scholes ar appointit to disciplin thair disciples that trublit the kirk this day.

Patrik Dunbar baron of Sanquhar is married to Katherein Cuming the relict spous of John Forbes in Ortoun and daughter to John Cuming of Ernsyde yr.

14th November.—Isbell Foulertoun (and others) to pay half merk for awaybyding fra the Kirk. The minister exhortis the elderis in God's name to be mair cairfull and dilligent in thair calling. The minister sall admoneisch all the inhabitantis of this burgh furth of the pulpit to keip the preaching and specialie the gudman and the gudwyffe of ilk hous to be present at the Wednisdayes preaching and that they keipe the prayeris, attour to inhibitt all pastyme on the calsay and vaging thairon the tyme of devyne service and all extraordinar drinking at ony tym under the paynis of condigne puneishment.

16th November.—It is appointit that ilk Sabboth day tua elderis sall sitt in the east end of the loft and thair tak ordour with the landward peopill and siclyk that Thomas Duff be commandit nocht to suffer his children to play on the Sabboth or uther preaching dayis in the Channonrie Kirk.

5th December.—Johne Mudderak, saidler, accusit for being in the Deanes zaird on Sonday the tyme of the eftirnoonis sermone. The said Johne confessit, but onlie upone occasioun (as he ves informitt) to haiff William Sutherland, saidler, onharmitt Alexander Gadderar to quhome he haid promesitt ane euill turne and no vtherwayes. William Sutherland and others to stand in the steipill.

Play grantit to the bairnis of the Grammar and Sang Schole for the space of ten dayis provyding that ather of thame present the

Kirk and the skuilis tuyse ilk daye and failzeing thairoff no playe to be admittit, vigesimo primo.

20th December. — Anent the Chanonrie Kirk. All prophane pastyme inhibited to be usitt be any persones ather within the burgh or college and specallie futballing through the toun, snaw balling, singing of carrellis or uther prophane sangis, guysing, pyping, violing, and dansing and specallie all thir aboue spect. forbidden in the Chanonrie Kirk or Kirk zaird thairoff (except futball). All women and lassis forbiddin to haunt or resort thair under the paynis of publict repentans, at the leist during this tyme quhilk is superstitiouslie keipitt fra the xxv day of December to the last of Januar nixt thaireftir, quhilk ordinance the minister sall intimat furth out of the pulpitt.

Sonday the 23rd of December 1599.—Convenit the minister and elderis and ordenitt William Hyis wyffe, Johne Mour's wyfe, Andro Annand's wyffe and Andro Gordounes wyffe Johne Gadderaris sone and Andro Gordounes sone quho wer schewdand in a raip this day. All theis to be summonitt agane the mornyng prayeris the morne to gif accomptes of all as affeiris.

28th December.—Names of the Lasses. Heir followis the names of thame that wer singand in the Chanonrie Kirk on the 26th day of December: Margaret and Isbell Boynd, Marjorie and Elspet Sutherland, Thomas Innes, persoun of Bonnache his daughter, Isbell Schand, Bessie Douglas, Janet Gardin, Magy Thomesone, Marjory Kaye, Janet Haye, Thomas Hay the [Town] Clerk's daughter, Isbell Skynner, Elspet Stephin, Isbell Innes, Agnes Innes, Walter Innes' dauchters, Gelis Tarres, Barbara Rob, Isbell Dauidsone, Magy Andersone, Annapill Chalmer to be heir on Wednisday nixt and to ressaue thair injunctionis and with the

mylner of the Linkwoidis woman wes with thame the same tym. James Calder, burges of Elgin, is becum caution that Marjorie Kay sall not haunt the Chanonrie Kirk in tymes cuming about the tymes forbidden under the paynes of V lib.

1600.

2nd January.—George Kay and Thomas Robertsone to stand quhill evin in the Steipill for passing of tym the houre of the Wednisdayes preaching and not being occupeit in handiwork to pay 2s. or they cum furth. Alexander Smyth's dauchter for guysing to be put in the joiggis gif it be prowin that scho ves in manis claythis.

4th January.—Generall Act anent Guysingis. It is appointit, statute and ordanitt fra this furth that all sic personis as beis found dansing, guysing and singing carrellis through the toune or in the Chanonrie Kirk and wther publict places the tyme callit the halie dayis, sic as beis doaris thairof sall be committit to the joiggis and stand thairin thrie houris and thair heades clippit or scheavin for that offence and sick persones as hes bein abusing the tym in the Chanonrie Kirk sall mak thair publict repentans bairfuttit and bairheadit ane day on the stuill and salbe presentit lykwayes to the joiggis but sall not be put thairin, and this same act to strik on Marion Andersone for guysing through the toun in menis claythis and to be put in the joiggis. Walter Auldcorn is becum cautioun under the paynis of ten pundis for Jonet Haye and Bessie Douglas and they acted for his releiff that they sall neuir be found passing tym in the Chanonrie Kirk.

Mr Thomas Mauld is master of the Grammar School.

9th January.—Heir followis the names of those that were passand thair tyme in singing and dansing in the Chanonrie Kirk viz, Barbara Rob, Helen Tarres, Magie Durne (and nine others). All theis are appointit to mak their publict repentans a Sonday and being reincident thai sall be putt in the joiggis and thair headis scheawin. Guysaris are theis—Marian Smyt, &c.

8th February.—Communion next Sonday and therfoir all strangeris admoneishit not to preishe to the kirk. It is appointit that the maister of the Grammar Scole occupe reading and singing of psalmes in the queir and a desk to be tain out of the kirk thairinto.

13th February.—The minister schew to the sessioun that the presbytrie fand grytt fault with the grinding of mylnis on the Lord's day and the samyn wes ane occasioun that stayit mony pepill frome the heiring of the worde, to the dishonour of God and the saluatioun of thair awin saules. The minister chargitt William Gibsone of Sherefmylne to staye his mylne of Sherefmylne onground on the day of the Lord and William Young for the mylnes of Elgyne and Mostowye and Jhone Cokburne for the Bischope mylne to staye thair mylnes onground on the Sabboth dayis under a penaltie for the first fault. The bailleis and elderis hes promeist to speik the gudmane of Leucheouris to provyde materiallis to the communion and in cace the said Jhone Innes of Leucheouris denye to prowyde the same the bailleis promeissis to furneis samekill as sal satisfie thair awin quarteris.

15th Feb.—Anent the catecheising. It is appointit fra this furth that ilk houshalder within this perroche sall learn samonye questionis and articles of Christiane faith and religioun within the space of thrie moneth nixt efter thay salbe delyverit to thame and under the paynes of xls. and debarring of thame fra the Communion, and gif they contempne and remane in vilfull ignorans they salbe removitt furth of this perroche. The

elderis to be present ane hour befoir the vountit conventioun quhairthrough they may ressaue thair tokynnes. The maister of the Grammer schoole to be forwarnitt to reid the prayeris in the queir the tyme of the seruice in the kirk. The officiaris suorne that they sall nocht gif no tokynes quyetlie.

20th Feb.—It is appointit thatt all men within this perroche cum and ressaue thair tokynes betuix this and Frydaye at evin and and that sick personis as pretend elestis to excuse them thatt they cum in betuix this and this daye aucht dayes and allege thair ressones and sic as beis found relevant admittit. Obstinate persons to be compelled to communicate under the pains of excommunication. This is to be intimat by the hand bell through the town.

Ult. Feb.—The cutlar gif he beis euir fund bannyng or swearing heireftir to be baneist. Compeared John Cockburn for not keiping Bishop myln onground on the Sabboth day.

5th March.—The officiaris are commandit to note the names of those women that haunts the fische mercatt the tym of the sermone and prayers on the wek dayes.

7th March.—James Mylne at the Walkmyln is becum actit under the paynis of ten merkis to staye his mylne ongane on the Sabboth dayes.

9th March.—That Gilbert Gadderar inhibit be sound of the hand bell all personis within this toun to play at the chew within the burgh or outwith neirhand to the samyn, ilk persoun man under the paynis of half merk of his fie and his maister to be ansuerable thairfoir.

16th March.—Johne Cokburn to be admoneist to staye his myln of Bishopmyln onground on the Lord's daye under the paynes of excommunication.

28th March.—It is concluditt that all the fixit wemen stuillis in the kirk be remouitt incontinent eftir our dissolving of this Sessioun

and that conformie to the act already maid.

31st March.—Becaus sum folks fynds fault with the removing of the vomen stuills the minister inquyrit severallie ilk elder about gif they allowit or disallowit that ordour that wes takin in the removing of the stuillis, efter sum ressouning it is allowit provyding that thair be sum ordour takin for easing of the agit vomen and diseasit persounes in the kirk the tym of the sermone, preaching or prayeris and thairfoir that they gif in thair bills for craving of sic thingis as is neidfull. Persones delatit this daye in thair houses fra the Kirk. Delaitit Katherein Cowye wes gangand to the Channonrie Kirk &c.

2nd April. — Margat Innes, spous to Alexander Innes, tailzeour, is appointit to pay xld. for the haldin fast hir dur on Sondaye and having company with hir in the hous the tym of the searching and gif euir heireftir scho beis guiltie in the lyke sall pay xxs.

4th April.—Walter Hay, goldsmith, for setting upoun Andrew Stalker, goldsmith, with a drawin sword in his hand speciallie upoun a nicht befoir the celebration of the Lord's Supper is appointit to present the stuill of repentans on Sondaye next for amendment to the kirk whom he offendeit. The gudmane of Corridoun hes promeist to try furth the persone that cam to charme his wyfe by his witting. The minister exhortis to try sic personis as charmis that they may be puneist.

11th April.—Alexander Gadderar, for slander, ordained to indew himself with the saccloth and enter himself to his public repentance within the paroche kirk of Elgin from the last chop of the hyndmest bell to the conclusion of the sermone and prayeris maid be the minister and during the said space to stand in the common place of penitents of that soirt with a mytre to be sett on his heid.

23rd April.—John Mow to pay 13s 4d for speaking presumptuous language against the magistrates.

30th April —Thomas Hepburn promeist to staye his myln of Innerlochtie ongoing on the Sabboth daye.

13th May.—It is appointit fra this furth that the maister of Grammer Schole his schollares saye the Lord's prayer, the beleive and the ten commandmentis tuo dayes togidder, the musick schollaris ane day and Robert Leslie's schollaris tuo dayes.

16th May.—The officiaris are commandit to wait on Sondaye efternone and haif thair halberts on thair schulderis, and William Young and Alexander Pringill to avait on the ouir end of the toun, William Gibsone and Mr James Gairdin in the nether end of the toun.

21st May.—The minister and elderis inhibits the maister of the Grammer Schole fra this furth to practeisand comedie ather inwith the schole of this burgh or outwith the samyn without speciall licence of the session obtenit thairto and siclyk the maister himselff thinkis he hes done wrang in practeizing thairoff the said comed play so rashlie and unadvysedlie and thairfoir promesis fra hence furth not to practeize the lyke.

23rd May.—Comperit Thomas Innes, persone of Bonnache, ves desyritt to be present at the heiring of the word quho ansuerit that he vald quhen he ves present in the toun and haid no lauchfull and ressonable excuses to stay him, but as to communicat with the sacrament of the Lord's Supper refusitt and allegit he haid ane lauchfull excuis for him nocht the les takin him to advyse and gif his ansuer the next session day. Siclyke Thomas Mauld, maister of the Grammer (Schole) for his publict offence sall confes his fault of making a play and comed of Tyrence in the freir kirkzaird on Tuysday last sall stand in his awin seat on Sondaye next and acknowlege his errour by his ansuer to the minister and thair lykwayis publictlie befoir the kirk promeis nevir to commit the lyk.

28th May.—It is appointit that the personis seiarisk licence to pastyme be tryit on Fryday next.

30th May.—George Kaye the displaying of the taffatie on the stepill quhen he vas wairdit thair with Arche Graye, Alexander Grant, Thomas Robertsone, and William Stronache, his complices on Monondaye last bypast for the quhilkis and speiking presumpteous words in presens of the Sessioun and for uther his enormiteis knawin to the juges as for the incyting and deducing utheris his complices and collegis to cum to seik licence to haif ane Abbot play quhairthroch ane tumult and uproar micht aryse aganis the disciplin and commonveill of this burgh thesaid George is ordenit and adiugit presentlie to be put in the stockis to remane thairin quhill Sonday nixt and thaireftir to be adiugitt of the Sessioun. Williame Dunbar, maisone, is becum cautioun wnder the paynis of ten pundis that he sall not preishe to vse any plays or pastymes or wse or haunt company with the rest [so of the others] John Lay, pyper, inhibitt to pas throch the toun or zit playe besyd the toun on a grytt pype under the pains of banneishment furth of this perroche.

The maister of the Grammer Schole being accusit be the Sessioun for trangressing of the ordour of the disciplin of the kirk be using sic insolens and lascivious fashiounes as mycht brangill and hurt the estait of the commoun weill of this burgh and speciallie in the first for conduceing a pyper to playe on the gryt pype with his disciples to the bentt by the consent of the counsale. 2º Gif he onduced with his bairns to caus seik silverc the tym of the comed playing. 3º Gif he ves in consale of the buying of the bellis and dansing claythis and gif thair wes ony geir promesit to him be his skollaris to grant thame licence to play. 4º Gif he wret the infamous bill giffin in be the raskall soirt (grantit that) and siclyk being regrated be the minister that he at Mr James Guthre his desyre and his awin past the first offens upone promeis that he suld not commit the lyke quhilk he transgressit with all the quhilk the

Sessioun fyndis fault and convictis him guiltie of dyvers pointis thairoff and thairfoir for restraining of sic lowsnes and commotioun in tymes cuming incaice sic thingis fall out on his occasioun and ouersicht the said maister sall loiss his half zeiris fie and ressaue present deprivatioun and in the meyntyme presentlie dischargis him to do lyke wnder the saidis paynis quhilk warning and command he accepted and thair confessit his offence to the Sessioun and repentit and declaritt that any sick thing haid fallin furth throuch his ouersicht and thair promeist before them that he suld never suffer the lyk to be done and committed be him selff and his discuples in tymes cuming.

1st June.—The bailleis and elderis sall convein the morne to the mornyng to baneiss the stranger beggaris. Gif the cutlar ressaves his dauchter that is baneist he salbe lykvayes baneist, his wyffe and his sone also.

6th June.—A fast appointit for Sondaye cum aucht dayes.

8th June.—Ordains that Thomas Innes, persone of Bonnache (Bonah) be summoned to compeir on Wedinsday next to sett cautioun to heir the word and ressaue the Sacrament.

He said he would not go to the Parish Kirk of Elgin because he had to wait on the laird, his master, who was a parishioner of Urquhart. As for being two years from the Communion, he said it was because he could not receive the Communion, because his two brothers' lives were sought with the pursuers, whereof he was so displeased, "quhilk reasones wes comptit friuolous." He said he was not the first Innes the minister had "wraikitt." The said Thomas constantly asserted that no ecclesiastical discipline had power to censure George Kay to put him in the stocks.

27th June.—For the halding the peopill walking (awake) the time of preaching it is

appointed that ilk ane walkin another and gif that availlis nocht a law thairefter salbe sett doun be advyse. Thomas Alseonir and Janet Russell to make thair repentance in saccloth 13 Sondays beginning in the porche dur in thair habite at the first bell to the ending of the last bell and thairefter to cum in and present the public place at the mid pillar under the vest loft thair to stand and sitt quhill the ending of the sermone quhair they sall confess thair offence and craif God mercie.

30th June.—The minister and elderis convenit within the South ile. It is ordanitt that thair be upliftit and exactit of ilk bailzie that removes nocht the baneist personis in his quarter 20s, and of ilk elder that delatis nocht thame to the bailzie betuix this and Wedinsday next 13s 4d the roll of thair names being haid to knaw thame.

9th July.—The minister compleins and also lamenteth the slawnes and raritie of the conventioun of the peopill to the Wedinsdayes preaching, exhorting the haill assemblye to be mair dilligent in thair calling and speciallie to convein the peopill to the heiring of God's word. Isobell Geddes, the relict of umqle Alexander Symond, alias Robertsone and hir bairnis to compeir on Wedinsday nixt to subscryve the letter of slaynis to Alexander Gadderer. [Bessie Corben ordained to remove from the parish].

(Thomas Hay, brother to Walter Hay, goldsmith).

1st August. — Williame Cumming and Williame Symond for abusing the Sabbothe daye in casting lottis for —— Nauchtie and the said Nauchtie for ganging in thair companyes about the Lady Hill and using sich formes as scho usitt, the saidis Williames to be put the morne being Satturdaye in the joiggis and the said —— Nauchtie to be put in the golffis quhairby utheris maye tak exampill to committ the lyke, all this to be done at one time.

20th August.—Alexander Pringill is becum

actit sourtie and cautioun for Williame Symond, sone to Thomas Symond, alias Robertsone, that he salbecum prenteis, lyik as he presentlie byndis himselff prenteis to his said father to continew prenteis with him during all the dayes of his fatheris lyvetyme onlie to be sustenit in meat and claithes quhairin gif the said Williame transgres he salbe instantlie puneist with baneishment.

24th August.--William Dunbar to be poyndit for refusing the puiris bredd (brod).

29th August.—It is appointit that the fouir bailleis be visitoris on Sondaye nixt and that thair places be keipet to thair incuming thairfra, also that the bell pass throch the toun the morne be tyme of daye for proclaming the fast, siclyk that this daye the morne and the mercatt daye the actis maid anent the ten houris and four houris bell and watche in the toun and feildis be proclamitt be sound of the hand bell that nane pretend ignorance thairof.

The session now always meets in the south aisle.

7th September.—William Gibson and the remanent bailzeis accusit the slawnes of the officiaris this day in the assembling of the peopill.

14th September —All the officiaris presentis thair poynds instantly ; forther it is appointit that the minister name ony man he pleissis to chakvatche sic personis abydis athir fra the kirk or zit remanis furth out of the kirk and returns to thair housis. The minister exhortis the haill number of the honest men of thet oun to keip the Wedinsdayes preaching and that the Lord God of hevin may grant a blessing to thair labouris in this tyme of the harvest. Some poynds delyverit and put in the yle to be keipitt.

JOHN GORDON, Corridoun, contracted with Margaret Ogilvy the relict of the laird of Auchannachie of that ilk.

21st September.—Dyuers poynds presentit

be the officiaris quhilk was tane upt fra the personis awaybyderis fra the Kirk to be reseruit quhill the awneris be tryit.

26th September.—The minister intimat his maiesteis will contenit in his letter and ordeins Sonday nixtocum to be keipit as a day of thanksgeving for his maiesteis delyuerans, and sic as cumes nocht salbe comptit as disonoraris of his maiestie.

18th October.—The puir to be numbered and provisioun to be maid for them be the haill parochinaris pro rata. All strangeris instantlie to remove undir payn of death betuix this and the morne at nycht. The bailzeis at eftir none to pas throch the toun to ressaue the nychtbouris aithis that they sall not ressaue straingeris in thair houses without knawlege of the bailzeis That the zaird headis be biggit on the expensis of the awneris, ane chakwatche ilk nicht under the paynes of ten lib. the negligentt for the first, the secund exyle, the third death. A roll to be made of the folks of Fyndorne (12th Oct. Thair is appointit to ryde vest to Fyndorn the morne Thomas Hay, Robert Innes, James Lesly, Alexr Pringill) 22nd Oct. Thair is appointit to go west to Fyndorne Alexr Boynd (and three others) with charitie to the peopill of Fyndorne.

24th October.—The elderis present thinks it meit that thair be appointit be advyse of the bailleis and counsale ane faythfull man that can wret quho sall haue ane paper buik to not the outpassing of ilk persone that geis out at the poirtis and thair returning in agane the day, the hour, place, wher they haue bein.

29th October.—It is appointit that Johne Gordoun, baillie, and his folks pas to Fyndorne with thair chairtie the nixt Fryddaye.

26th November.—A Commission to Alexander Annand to mene the estait of the countrie to his maiestie and his consell and to bring Bell the cleinger out of Dundey and to bring letteris to charge the magistratis of this countrey for laying of a taxation for satis-

feing of the clengeris and expensis to be sustenit thairupoun. A fast ilk Sondaye to be obseruit in this burgh during the tyme of this mortalitie in the countrey heir aboutt.

5th December.—Euerilk Sonday appointit to be a day of fast and sic as beis deprehendit in surset (?) and ryot to be puneist as for ony uther fault.

12th December.—It is appointit that the bairnis repet the commoun cathecheis this nixt oulk nychtlie and evenyng and mornyng a psalme to be song; the catecheising to begin on the article of repentans to continew thre nychtes in the oulk viz. Tuysday, Fursday, and Fryday. It is aggreit that George Cuming and George Annand ryd to the ladie Ernsyd younger to speak hir anent the servandis, the maister of the Sang Schole to be spoken anent the daylie psalme at mornyng befoir the reding and at evenyng befoir the blessing.

19th December.—Meittingis ilk nycht and ilk day in the mornyng. William Gibsone to visie Midletoun, Williame Kynloche to the Liggait to visie the plage. Fryddaye the 26th December. Comperit Laurence Dundas and in the Chantour his freindis name presentit ane excuse of ignorance of the auld ecclesiastik inhibiting the frequentation and resoirting in the place callit the Chanonrie Kirk or zaird and places thairanent, nocht the les it is appointit that Alexander Boynd, Alexander Pringill, and George Cuming sall go speik the chantour, subchantour, and remanent playeris at the futball yesterday the XXV day of December in the said place and schaw thame thair offense quhairby thai may amend it by gevin thair presens, confessing the same to be in fault. The litle and mekill Innerlochteis to be visied.

28th December.—Johne Cokburne and his wyffe to be convenit to Wedinsday next for setting of caution that the Bischopmyln sall ceis ongrindand on the day of the Lord as utheris taxmen of mylnis within this presby-

terie hes done for the honour of God and veilfair of his chosen peopill. (If they fail they are to be admonished and then excommunicated, having been admonished twice already). It is appointit that 24 bywatches wait on the poirts of this toun during this tyme of the wisitatioun.

1601.

7th January.—David Torrie and William Torrie his sone to visie the seik and haill folkis within the perrochin of Duffus and to report ansuer thairoff ‘t is appointit that the dyjk betuix the colleg and the toun be transportit this day at eftirnoone.

9th January.—It is appointit that the boy callit Hay presentlie in Thomas Hayis hous quho is zit onbapteist that he compeir on Sonday nixt befoir the blessing and thair desyir the minister to ressaue him into the kirk be the sacrament of baptisme and becaus he is cum to zeiris of discretioun being about xix. zeir of age he is appointit to gif a confessioun of the articles of the faith publictlie and thaireftir to ressaue the seall and sacrament of baptizing.

21st January.—Alexander Innes, tailzeour, for neglecting the gaddering of almous to the puire is ordanit to pay iis and Walter Auldcorne 4s. 8d. for his carlessnes thairin.

28th January.—Mem randum to speik the presbeterie anent the mylnes. Johnne Cokburn zit to be summonit to compeir to heir and to se him be denouncit to mak his publict repentans for his syndrie contumacie to the sessioun and thair ordinance and that vnder the paynis of excommunication.

31st January.—Margaret Dunbar, spous to John Cokburn, compears and informs the session that they have renouncit the takkis of the Bishopmyln and therefore be not asked to set caution. The session reply that time will tell and if not true the session will show less mercy.

15th February.—Landward eldaris: Laird

of Pettindreiche for it, George Rob, Kelles Ester, James Chalmer for the Bougsyid and Schrestoun, Alexander Russall for Hauche and Nether Manbenis, Johne Mill for Over Manbeynes, David Torrie for Douelliegrene, Johne Gordone for Mostowie, Hew Falconer for Quhytfeild and his pairt of Mekill Innerlochtie, Thomas Hepburn for Lytill Innerlochtie and his part of Mekill Innerlochtie, Anthone Chalmer for Dinkintie. Cauldcottis, Forsterseat and Scottistounhill, Thomas Femastir for Petgonye and Cauldhame, Thomas Tulloche for Gilmorsyde, Langrig and S. Androwis-Kirktoun, James Cumming for Barmukattie, Linkvoid, Wodsyde, Birclaybing and Glasgreyne William Innes of Blakhillis for it and in his absens Robert Malleis quha is for Thornhill and Glakmarres and Mr Alex. Leslye for Quhutwray, Miltoun, and Langmorgan.

18th February. — Patrik Dunbar, callit Barroun Sanquhar, is convenit for minacing the town's portar and geving injurious wordis to Alexander Boynd, ane of the counsall and for inbringing of a stranger man and a woman agains James Jamesone, quha was then keipar of the Nether Poirt, his will, for the quhilk the haill consall and sessioun adjudges him in the vrang and to cum in the toun's will thairfoir.

Parties not compearing at the Session when warned to appear before them to pay half a merk for the first offence.

William Torres' woman and Barbara Pattoun for casting snaw ballis on Sonday to be summoned.

28th February.—Thair is appointit to helpe Robert Leslye the redar in delyvering of the tokynnes to the townis folkis, advyse towching the estait of the cuntrye and the plague and for helping of the puir people of the bruch sea.

4th March.—James Douglas delatit William Torrie on communicat upone ane excuis that

his father brother is schamefully murthered. Duncan Sibald his tuo sonnes (and seven others) delatit playeris at the chew in the Chanonrie Kirk on Sonday and thairfoir to be wairdit whereuir thai may be apprehendit. John Barbour, alias Patersone in Mosstowie (and his wife and others) to learn the tuelff articles of the Christian faith betuix this and Whitsonday nixt with the sex petitiones and the Lord's prayer under the pain of 20s. ilk ane.

James Vauis, son to George Vauis, ordenit to be beltit with (by) the maister off the Grammer schole, his ordinar maister, in the sicht of sum Elgin eldaris. Issobell Foular. toun slanderit Johne Smyth, post, and aquavitie maker by saying that the said Johnne had stollin hir cok and that he was the convoy of the stealing hir hors and of hir meir.

William Tarres (and others) to learne the crede and the Lord's prayer betuix and Whitsonday nixt under the pain of 20s. Cautioners found for Sibbald's two sons and others not to play at the cheow under the pain of 20s or else present them in the joggis.

8th April.—Comperit Katherein Cowie quho pretendit that scho was seik and mycht nocht cum tymouslie with the rest of the people to the sermone and finding hir selff disposit to praye went for solitarnes caus to the Chanonrie Kirk to praye thair quhilk scho hes promesit heirefter to forbeir and to hant this Kirk the tymes of preaching and prayeris. John Pattoun, wobster, was playing at the cheaw. (If apprehendit again he is to be punished at the Cross and in the meantime is committed to ward with James Ker for being absent from the Kirk last Sunday). Comperit Alexander Hepburne, Johnne Culbak, Cristen Rannold, spous to Henrie Badzenoch, all theis personis publictlie suorne that they hurt neuir any persone by witchcraift or sorcerie, neither sall they do in tymes cuming, hes suorne that they knaw nocht quhat it is. They haif all promeist to hant the kirk on the Sabboth dayes.

19th April.—Folks of Langmorgane. Comperit Jonnet Philpe in Langmorgan and maid her aith that scho did not hurt hir nychtbouris by witchcraift neither zit suld scho do the samyn. Henry Badzenoch maid his faith. In lyk manner baith haiff promesit to heir the sermonis on the Lord's day.

22nd April.—Persons profaning the Sabbath at games and pastimes for the first fault to pay 10s. to ward within the Steeple 48 hours and then make their public repentance on the pillar which act is put in execution and practice on Thomas Makean for passing the time 'at the ailay bowlis' on Sunday.

10th May.—The baillies, elderis and consale to put the stranger beggaris out of the toun.

17th May.—Comperit ane boy of threttein zeir auld quhois surname is Arthour quho remanis zit onbapteist and desyris the benefit of the Sacrament of baptisme to be ministrat to him, quhairwith the elderis aggreis provyding that he tak payais to lerne the articles of the faith and thairefter to be bapteized.

19th May.—Margaret Lumsden reprovit for having a barne playand in the kirk the tyme of the sermone quho hes promeist nocht to haif the lyke. Agnes Riach promeist the lyk. Alexander Mill, younger, (and four others), accusit for passing the tyme on the Sabboth daye at the kyills the tyme of preiching. He confesses. Gif euir the said Alexander playis at any pastyme the tyme of the sermoun aither zit dingis his mother or bannis hir or uses any uther misordour in that case he is content to resaiff ane doussane of strypes at the Thron.

27th May.—Edward Auldcorne his tuo sonnes committed to the stipill quhill they be beltit for thair gryt enormiteis and playand at prophane pastymes on the Sabboth day the tyme of preaching. Andrew Tailzeour is becum actit to haunt the sermones baith on Wedinsdayes and Sondayes and upone requisitioun sall gif accomt

of sum part of the sermone preached euerie sermone day under the paynes of V lib. Agnes Gaw and Margaret Gaw obleist to keipe the kirk under the payne of standing three houres in the joggis.

29th May.—William Tarres in the College pretendit excuse of his being awaye from the kirk that thair ves a number of dissolut people passand throche the zairds the tyme of the preaching. He saw John M'Ray the vricht and James Cuming, tailzeour, and with thame in the Dean's zairds play and at the penny stane on Sonday Alexander Cuming, &c. The visitors delated many people away from the kirk.

12th June.—William Fyndlay promesit to keipe the Kirk and tell sick personnes as he kennis to pas throche the zairdis on the Sabboth daye breking the dykis. The minister declarit that the Kingis maiestie with consent of the general kirk hes ordenit the tuo last Sondayes of June to be keipit in humiliation, fast and abstinence for dyvers and syndrie causes bot in speciall for the desolation in the cuntrey in religion and policie and for delyverie fra the plague of pestilence.

14th June.—Memorandum to remember Walter Hay, goldsmith, to mak a stamp to mak signes for marking the puir.

19th June.—Twa nixt Sondayes for fasting and the haill week betuix thame preceislie to be keipit at the mornyug and evenyng prayeris. Na pastyme to be usit six as caitching, bouling, the kyles or poirtboules or any uther lewd pastyme during the said tyme under the payne of puneishment in thair bodies and geir.

24th June.—Alexander Thome and Agnes Pyerie find cautioun that thai sall not use no balling, pyping nor dancing nor any excess nor ryot nor yet cum furth to the calsay under the paynes of ten libs and the parteis to be mareit the morn at the morning prayeris becaus this dayes of humiliation.

26th June.—It is fund daingerous the casting

of stanes with the slinges, for hurting of folkis, thairfor that the maister of scholes be spokin to inhibiting thair schollaris fra sic exerceiss and sick boyes as can be deprehendit throch the toun having or casting stanes with the slinges to be puneist and thair slinges to be takin fra thame.

1st July.—Tymmer grantit to the laird Duffous furth of the queir to be seat to him in the kirk of Duffous quhilk is to be delyverit be the sicht of kirkmaister and eldaris.

3rd July.—Ane of the officiaris to pas alandward and poynd the landward eldaris becaus of thair nocht repairing to the Session and to charge them to cum on Wednisday and gif up delation and releive thair poyndis.

5th July.—Delatit the Bishopmilne to bene gangand this day.

12th July.—About the Feildis. It is appointed that the minister sall intime furth of the pulpit that nane pas a landwart or about the feildis eftirnone or befoirnone untill the eivin seruice eftirnone be endit. All the eldaris to compeir the morne at efter the mornyng prayeris for desynging and marking of the townis puir folkis by delyuering to ilk ane of thame ane tokin of lead on thair breastis.

19th July.—The persones of counsale and eldaris present thinkis gude and ordainis that the hous quhairin Fermour the symth duellis attribut to the veill and use of the puir litle anis quhilk gretis throch the toun under the silens of nycht and a womane socht out to dwell thairin to ressaue thame thairin ilk nycht to loudging.

22d July.—Every husband absent fra the kirk to pay 6s 8d, and the cottar man 12d, and ilk elder that abydis awaye without a lauchfull excuis 10s. It is appointit be Act of Sessioun conforme to the Actis of Parliament that nane of the parochionaris of the paroche grant outher meat or loidging to ony beggar bot to sic as ar markit with Elgin mark on

thair breistis. Beggars found begging on the Sabbath day to be wairdit, and becaus S. James Dayis fair approches to the quhilk thair hauntis many beggaris, thairfoir the eldaris to apprehend all strangeris begging, and to be burnt on the cheek if they return.

24th July.—Alexander Russall, for Nether Monbeins and Hauche, delatis Thomas Gadderar passing to Cheppell Well with a menzie with him.

5th August (Wednesday).—Eftir a frequent convention of the Kingis Maiesteis lieges for his delyverance Mr John Guthrie, teachit upoun the secund psalme.

John Farier in Doveliegrein accusit for ganging to Cheppell and well callit Ladie Grace, deponit on his consciens that neither him selff, his wyff, nor bairns, wes thair this zeir, but confesses that upone a four zeir bygane he zeid thair in pilgrimage.

9th August.—Certane persones notit and speciallie merchandis quho causit thair packis be convoyit awaye with thair geir to Forres to the mercat thairof this day afoir and eftirnone and thame selffis past befoir the eftirnone seruice thairto. James Calder and James Donaldsone, accusit for thair journeying to the South on a certane Sondaye immediatlie befoir the eftirnoon's preaching being the tuelf day of July lastbypast, confessit thair offens and hes promesed nocht to committ the lyk heireftir, nochtwithstanding of thair obediens the saidis persones ar appointit to seik support to tuo herreit men callit William Hepburne and William Hamiltoun as for thair pennaltie injoynit to them. Others are reproved.

19th August.—Certane personis quho being in the idolatrous pilgrimage confessit thair being thair. All thair names contenit in a roll and continewit in censuring till the ministeris hame cuming.

23d August.—The elderis present zit nochtwithstanding Robert Leslye ressauit cautioun of sic persones as compeirit for going to the

idolatrous chappell in pilgrimage and thair cautionaris notit.

26th August.—The remanent personis quho wer chalengit for thair idolatrous woyage to the chappell and to the cave hes set cautioun of new agane.

6th Sept.—Alexander Annand complains on Alexander Adam and others who dang his pundlar and tuik away his peis. They deny.

7th Oct.—Elspet Richartsone is committit to waird for having folkis drinking in hir hous on Sonday last the tyme of preaching.

Margaret Sutherland, spous to David Torrie, hes promeist neuir to be apprehendit on the calsaye the tyme of preaching in pane of publict rebuik.

11th October (Sonday). — James Leslie, searcher, delatis scheip brocht in to the toun this day on horsback.

14th October.—The minister fand gryt fault of the rare conventione, and speciallie of the magistratis wyffis, and with the officiaris for thair slaknes in poynding the absentis according to the actis maid thairanent, and for remedie thairof it is appointit that incace thair be found sic slawnes in the saidis officiaris that they salbe put in waird thairin to remane quhill the nixt Sonday immediat thairefter. Alexander Grant to be put in the joiggis on Saturday, and thair stand tuo houris for passing his tyme in vanitie and prophaning the Sabboth day.

16th October.—Richart Fischar accusit for travelling to mercattis with fruit on the Dominicall Sabboth, for dinging of his wyff, drawing a suorde to William Youngsone, and for being oftymes drunkin, thairfoir is committit to waird, therein to remane upone bread and watter untill Sondaye nixt, and to find caution to observe ane comelie and gude ordour as becumes a Christiane and mareit man.

Margat Spens askit pardoune of Isbell Foulartoun for slandering of the said Isbell and calling her witche, and incace the said

Margat commit the lyk offence aganis the said Isbell scho salbe baneist.

30th October.—Certane personis to the number of ane hundreth personis, houshalderis, absent this day aucht dayis fra the sermone, and thairfoir poyndit, quhais poyndis ar forbiddin to be delyverit afoir Fryday nixt; thair names ar contenit in fouir skrollis.

1st November.—Alexander Pringill delatit Katherein Cowie, Jonet Jowall praying in the Channonrie kirk, Marioun Innes prayand thair, the gudwyffe of Buckie and the woman in Linkwood the Barroun Sanquhair passand by the Kirk dur at efternoone, the Bischopmiln gangand and thai windoing schilling thair, and Bellie the milner passand throche the toune.

The mornyng prayeris at vii. houris in the mornying to be said.

6th November.—Marioun Innes confessit hir being in the Channonrie Kirk on Sondaye last, quho promeist to be heir on Wedinsday next.

8th November.—Alexander Mill and Duchinnan's sone passing tyme.

13th November.—It is appointit and ordanit for sick as gois to the Channonrie kirk, hauntis the same or makkis thair prayeris thair sall pay for the first fault xls. and stand xlviii houris in the steiple in wairding of thair persones thair and mak thair publict repentans a day and as thai haunt and incres, the puneishment to be augmentit.

A fast to be on Sonday cum aucht dayis.

15th November. — Delatioun. Katheren Cowie, &c., folkis drinkand in Fraser the horneris hous, prayand in the Chanonrie kirk, Robertt Cowie playand in William Gibsone's zaird.

18th November.—Katherin Cowie is appointit to keip her awin seat on Sonday nixt and confess hir offens and promeis neuir to committ the lyk of praying in the Chanonorie Kirk under the paynis of iiii lib. and making her publict repentans.

20th November.—Thomas Hay delatis the the women in Valtir Auldcornis voultis and in Margaret Gadderer's voultis, all the folkis in Jonet Gibsone's clois away bydaris fra the kirk. Thomas Alves wyves sister delated with onforspoken watter about Witsondaye. Jonnet Winchester hes actit her selff gif euir scho beis apprehendit in the Channonrie kirk at her prayer scho is content to pay xls, and publict repentans. It is appointit fra this furth that sic as abydis awaye fra the kirk on Wedinsday, nocht responsall of geir, sall remain tua houris in the kirk on Fryday thaireftir.

25th November.—The minister speirit gif thair ves any of the Sessioun that culd find any fault with his doctrein on Sonday last let them declair and tell it now, for he is redie to answer for himself, and they all being seuerallie speirit at ansuerit in ane voce they fand nane, quhairupoun the minister desyrit a not thairof be registrat.

27th November.—Isbell Umfray, spous to Willame Clerk, admoneisched neither that scho salheirefter frequent the Channonrie kirk nor zit to pray on hir bairnis graue vnder the pain of publict repentans, &c.

Johnne Cokburn is becum voluntarie actit that his mailn sall nocht gang heirefter at any tyme on Sabbath dayes under the paynis of the making of his publict repentans.

30th November.—James Dowglas, searchar, delatis that Androw Edie wes receiving custome this daye, Margaret Robertsoun was selland bread. Alexander Innes and Alexander Young, searcharis, this day delatis Gillanders, a beggar and ane Watsone the coupar's dauchter beggand, John Mowis geid furth of the kirk or the prayeris ver done, Gilbert Gadderaris son perturband the kirk with Willsone, Panton the ministeris man on the calsay.

2nd December.—Catecheising on the mater of the Sacrament of the Lord's supper to begin on Mononday nixt and to that effect thair is

appointit tuo schollaris of the maister of the Grammer Scholis bairnis to reid thame that oulk throchoutt.

4th December.—Agnes Innes confessit that scho said to Robert Innes, "Ze ar my vnfreind" and that scho said to James Purs "Quhat invy is this that your brother the minister hes at me" and confessis that scho said "Let thame neuir haiff samekill to thair end day as Vs. that geris me pay Vs." For the quhilkis speiches aganis the magistratis scho is appointit to pay xls. to the collector of penalteis and mak hir publict repentans in her awin seat and confess her offence and promeis amendment.

13th December.—Act anent the inhibition of pastyme in the kirkzeard of the Chanonrie kirk quhill the aucht day of Februar nixt to be intimat. The names of the elderis of the burgh of Elgin being proclamit the secund tyme and no mane objectand wer solempnlie and publictlie electit.

Such was done yearly.

16th December.—The sessioune perceiving gryt perell through bureing of people in the kirkzaird of thair perroche kirk and within the kirk itself by raising of grene graivis and holking under the kirk vall undermynding of the samyne ordanis fra this furth that na persone presume to mak graivis within the precinct thairof or zit to burie any persone within the boundis of the samine. William Richartsone and James Donaldsone to pay half mark to the puir for remouuing furth out of the toune the tyme of the foirnonis sermone.

Thomas Symond, cutlar, confessit the charmeing of bairns for the heart growing (becaus sayis he that he is a schyir smyth). The forme is this: he sayis that he takkis a smythis hammer and his tonges and sayins (sains, blesses) the barne, with this saying In nomine patris et filii et spiritus sancti, &c. He declaris that Katherin Sutherland and Magie Mill brocht ilk ane of thame ane

bairne of thairis to him quhilk he charmit in the same forme. They confess.

30th December.—The officiaris commandit to poynd the absentis fra sessioun this day and speciallie thais that zeid in pilgrimage to the chappell and the well.

1602.

1st January.—James Cock in Nether Manbeins confessit that he and James Murdoche thair zeid upon a tyme to Alues to ane vitche quha thaireftir wes brint in Dareway; and the said James confessit that he gaif her half mark stik quhilk scho said behouit to be cast in the sea and granttis that thair wes vatter brocht out of Schinakes well quhen he was seik at that tyme.

6th January.—Comperit William Warrand in Over Manbeins and confessit that he zeid in pilgrimage to the chappel of Speysyid bairfut and bairleggit and drank of the well besyid the Chappell, that he zeid about the chappell bairfut and thair wes with him his brother Williame Warrand and his sister Jonet Warrand in the same forme and did the same thingis as he did. James Hoissak and Margaret Hoissak grantis that thei zeid to S. Geretynes caue bairfut and bairleggit. The said James declairis that he had a sair arme quhilk he pat in the soill that is in that cave and wes nocht the bettir and sayis that his sister wes nocht seik. Cristen Farquhar, spous to —— Hossak thair confessis that scho haid a sair leg quhilk wes the occasioune of his gangang thair and sayis scho wes the bettir of hir jorneying to the caue. Williame Walker and Williame Tailzeour in Douelliegrein confessis that they zeid in pilgrimage to Cheppell bairfut and bairleggit and knelt about the chappell and declarit that they gaif sum of thair meat to the puir that wes thairat. It is appointit sic personis that passed in pilgrimage and committ idolatrie be puneist in wainding of thair persones and

makand thair repentans in sacclothe. Alexander Leang is adiudgit to pay 5s. and mak his publict repentans Sonday for careing a lead fra the miln on a Sonday and Nicoll Duncane, servitour to David Torrie, for doing the lyk appointit to pay xld. and mak his publict repentans.

10th January.—Thair wes a gude and frequent conventionn baith befoir and eftirnone, thankis God.

13th January.—It is specialie appointit decreed and ordanit that sick persones within this paroche as confessit thair going to the idolatrous places of the Chappell at Speysyid and to the caue besyid the seysyid of Stotfauld in superstitions pilgrimage salbe puneist and censurit in this soirt viz. that ilkane of thame sall mak thair publict repentans in sacclothe ilk Sondaye betuix Trinitie Sonday nixt to cum and the first day of August thaireftir bairfut and bairleggit, siclyk to enter ilk Saturday during the space forsaid at sevine hours in the mornyng in the steipill of S. Gelis Kirk thairin to remane in waird that day and that nicht quhill thai entir on the morne to thair publict repentans and ilk Sondaye to be callit in befoir the sessioun quhairby they may ken quhow the spirit of God hes wrocht with thame and also thai mon sueir neuir to do the lyk in tymes cuming and in the meyntym that the saidis idolaters provide thame selues habitis of sacclothe upone thair awin expenses. William Walker and William Tailzeour, servitouris to Thomas Haye ar realie, presentlie and solempnlie suorne on thair gryt aith that they sall neuir go a superstitious pilgrimage in lyk manner without consent of thair pastour and siclyk Thomas Haye their maister is becum actit cautioun for thame under the paynis of ten lib. that they sall accompleis and obey the injunctionis heir aboue expressit and within fourtie dayis sall provide themselues habits of sacclaith.

15th January.—It is ordaint that Thomas

Symond the cutlar and his haill famelie be remouit furth of this toune at ane certane day. It is appointit and thought gude thair be a daye of humiliation and abstinence befoir the ministration of the Communion on Sonday cum aucht dayes.

20th January.—*Anent the fast.* — Forsamekill as the Sessioune heiring that the day of fast is nocht keipit be sum folkis of this toune quho nochtwithstanding of the proclamation thairoff baith be the bell and furth of the pulpit surfetts thame selues that day mair nor any uther Sabboth daye, thairfoir it is specialie appointed, decreed and ordanit be the elderschipe that fra this furth all dayis of abstinence and humiliatione be keipit halie to the Lord without preparatioune of any meattis, outher rost or soddin, bot to vse samekill onlie as may preserve the health of thair bodeis on bread and drink in all sobrietie and temperans, under the paynis of ten lib qlk salbe upliftit of euerie maister of familie quho contravenis this Act and ilk seruand and mein folkis to be puneist eftir thair habilitie, according to the vill of the Sessioune and this to be intimat be sound of the hand bell on Saturday nixt.

The eldaris to visie thair quarteris to try slanderous persones and sick as among quhome thair is elestis.

24th Jannary. — The Est quarter to be present the morne at evin to ressaue thair tokynes, the South quarter on Tuysdaye, the North-west quarter on Weddinsday and the North-east on Thursday. The eldaris to be present the morne efter prayer for reconciliation of sick personis as are at variance and betuix quhome ther is elestis. Ane elest betuix John Straquhan and his wife.

27th January.—The gudman of Leuchers promeist to provyd and furneis bread and wyne for celebratioun of the Communionn on Sonday nixt and that himself and his wyff and sum of his servands for quhome he will ansuer sall communicatt on Sonday nixt.

29th January.—John Gibsone and Alexander

Anderson remittit thair elestis and shakin handis. The elderis accusit Thomas James for misbehaving himselff to Alexander Pringill and Johne Robertsone, eldaris, quha vald nocht conforme to the ordour to mak his aith that he suld nocht gang to pilgrimage outher to chappell well or to the caue and mair in making of comparisone sayand that he ves als faithfull and honest as ony that requerit that aith of him.

5th February.—The elderschip fynding that nocht withstanding that the people are catecheised and lauchfullie and tymouslie warnit to prepair thame selves to the ressait of the Communioun and onlie tuo Sondayes being appointed to the celebration of the samyne to the townisfolkis of the burgh of Elgin quhairof ane Sonday is past the communicants being rare by thair expectation thairfoir for spurring of the remanent that hes not cum to ressaue thair tokynes and for removing of thair slawnes the session hes statute and ordanit for sick as abstractis thame selues fra the Communion this Sonday next salbe puneist, viz that ilk mane and womane worthe ane hundreth pundis in geir to pay ten pundis *ad pios usus* and sall mak thair publict repentans ane day and so *de ceteris* above that estait and of thame that ar wnder that estait and this act to be intimat be the sound of the hand bell through the towne incontinent eftir oure outgoing and in the meintyme all persones inhabitantis of this burgh and of the college be warnit be oppin proclamatione to cum this day at eftirnone and the morne at eftirnone to ressaue thair tokynes under the paynis forsaidis. Johne Gibsone allegit he micht not communicat becaus he vas to persew the murtherer of his brother as he allegit. David Torrie allegit tuo causes and reasones, ane the pursuit of his brotheris death and the slander of himselff be Alexander Gadderar quhilk reasone is admittit that he may not communicat.

7th February.—Na misrewle this daye bot a gryt conventioun; the kirk and all the loftis wer pleaised. The bell to be rung ilk day at four efternoone to the evenyng prayeris.

12th February.—Marjorie Yvill for skalding on Saturday last being immediatlie preceiding the Communion, putting hands on Robert Urquhard's nurishe and drawing of hir be the hair throch the calsaye to stand in the joggis the morne and hir hair about hir eyn the space of a hour.

14th February.—The searchers delate:—sum men at William Gibson's zet, George Leslie and sum utheris playand at the cairtis in Williame Hardeis hous, Richard Wardenis dauchter on the calsaye, beggaris in William Pattounes hous, John Gadderaris sone &c playand at the chew.

19th February.—Thomas James' excuse for byding fra the Communion is seiknes and his wyiff tareit quhill they come togidder to the Communion, quhilk excuis is admittit rationable. Johne Stewart's excuse — the steilling of his geir and hurting of his wyffe fywe woundis in hir persone—nocht admittit. John Foster—the drawing of his bluid—admittit. Martha Johnestoune pretendit seiknes also scho declairit that about Michaelmes on a certane nycht as scho came furth luiking for hir gudmanes returning out of the quarrell woid [Quarry Wood] and as scho luikit scho beheld at the mercat croce innumerable companes of people quhom scho hard call vpon mony women, quhois names scho expressit in particular as Gelis Sutherland and hir sisteris. Some gave as excuse the keiping of sick bairnis; of these some not admittit, some admittit.

21st February.—John Gibsone, searchar in the netherend of the toun declarit that thair ves a gryt number of strange beggaris on the calsaye and many children playand at the chew. It is appointit that all idill maistirles men and strainger beggaris be chargit and commandit to remove furth of this toune and

paroche betuix this and the morne at nyne houris under the paynis of birning thame on the cheik.

20th February.—William Mortimer's excuis—a stryffe betuix William Milne's wyffe and his wyffe—not admittit. Anthone Chepmane and Effie Bardie his wyff wanting claithes—not admittit.

7th March.—The maister of the grammer schole admoneished to caus his bairnis come to the kirk on Sondaye at the ringing of the second bell with a grytar modestie and to repair on Wednisday to the kirk or the outringing of the third bell. Jonet Innes, spous to Alexander Mill, officiar, reprovit of skalding and flyting.

12th March.—Three days in next week to be for examination of the landward people. All the weeks after there salbe four days—Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. Intimatione to be maid furth of the pulpit of the inhibition of the chew and the maisteris of housis to be ansuerable for thair seruandis that they play nocht thairat upoun any day to rais tumultis. The playeris at the chew on Sonday last in the Chanonrie Kirk quho enterit in combat viz *Capitane Duchemane*. His suldeors ar William Tarres the quhister, Henrie Winchester, John Donald, James Wattis his sonnes, Alexander Innes, son to William Innes, cordinar. *Capitane* Patric, Alexander Sinclar, Johne Duff, Mr Henrie Thornetoun's son, William Steillis tuo sonnes.

17th March.—Thomas James delatis Johnne Gatheraris sone a lows loun quhen the people ar in the kirk. John Gordon delatis John Peterkin and Alexander Lay, his awin cottaris, thrashing on divers Sondayes and away byding fra the kirk. The cutlaris dauchter to be removit, her father and mother to be removit. Robert Keith delatis Johne Bandoquhie a buriar of a bairne be the waye betuix this and Glakmarres.

About this period the Session held their meeting in the south aisle of St Giles' Kirk. The minutes begin after this form:—"Nyntein day of Marche 1602 convenit the minister, Mr James Gairdin, Alexander Pringill, Thomas Hay, Mr Alexr Ransone, James Leslie, Johne Leslie, James Law, Alexander Innes, William Milne, Alexander Young, William Innes, Thomas Milne, Johne Annand."

28th March.—Sonday cum aucht dayis appointit a day of fast befoir the eommunion a landward.

31st March.—Sandie Shiphird, sone to Thomas Shiphird in Litle Innerlochtie grantis that he zeid to the Chappel to seik his health and denyis that he kend the companie with quhome he zeid. Johnne Murdoche, Nons Peterkin, Thome Gadderar grantis thay zeid in sommer last to the Chappell bairfutt and bairlegt and thairfoir ar adiudgit to satisfie the aet maid anent idolaters the 13th January 1602 and to provide scheittis in sted of sakclaith to thame selves.

2nd April.—Jonet Burnet brocht in fische on Sonday last and Robert Durie tuik xii d. in composition. Janet Nauchtie confessis scho utterit many ill wordis in hir greiff, bot denyis the particular as that it was the D—— that pat on her cla this; gif God will nocht gif my siluer to me I pray the D—— to giff it to me.

11th April.—John Nauchtie for plowing and harrowing, sowing of his corns and threshing on the Sabboth dayis and for speaking blasphemeis aganis god's minister, sayand that the D—— had als gryt powar as God, and that they quho servit him were in als gude cace as thay quho servit God. To pay 40s. of penalty and to stand three days in sackcloth and, if he offend again, "to be baneist the peroche."

16th April.—Mr Samuell Cokburn to be requerit to teach in the queir on Sonday next

(Communion) and ane boy to be send to the gudmane of Leucheowris to get answer for materiallis.

17th April (day before Communion).—The provest [and seven others] to go through the toun to-morrow to see speciallie that none byid in the Channonrie Kirk nor in the kirk-zaird thairof.

18th April (Communion).—John Gauld at the alla boulis the tym of sermon, folkis in George Vauis hous eftir none, &c.

21st April.—Elspet Fraser, Marion Murdoch and Margaret Fairer committit to waird quhill they set cautioun to mak thair publict repentans for going to the chappell, and haiffing remanit all nyt in the steipill thame selues are becum actit to mak thair publict repentans.

30th April.—Androw Mitchell, maisone for not coming to the Communion committit to waird, but becaus he is bussie biggand Williame Hay the baxteris hous is let furth and William Haye is cautioun to enter him on Wedinsdaye nixt to this place vnder the paynis of V. libs.

5th May.—Anthone Chalmer to present his man that cam in with a lead to the myln on Sonday last. The landward elderis sall admoneis the people to keip the eftirnones sermon ilk Sonday during the summer tyme. James Cuming, tailzeour, nocht communicat becaus he vantis his beleiff and for lerning of him his beleiff it is appointit ther salbe a boy to lern him, and him selff ilk day to keipe the mornyng prayeris under pain of wairding. James Reidheid cautioun that his wyff sall lern her beleiff or the last Maij. Cutlar Symond sall remove out of this paroche at Whitsonday wnder the payne of publict baneishment.

9th May.—Searcharis delatis this day:—James Kay passand furth of the toun afoir the foirnone's sermone; Jaspert Hay playand; Christen Midchell, gathering kaill; sextein personis in William Pattounes hous; James

Rutherfuird's servandis awaye fra the kirk. Sandie Leang confessit the careing a lead fra the miln to Jonet Watsones and becaus he was convict in the lyk caus sall pay 20s.

12th May.—James Kay confessit his ganging to Duffous on Sonday last befoir none and thairfoir is ordanit to stand in waird xxiiij houris or ellis redeme him selff be payment of halfmerk.

14th May. — In respect of the evident tokynes of God's wraith of this lang induring droucht upone the land and dyuers uther causes it is thought gude that Sondaye cum aucht dayis be keipit as a day of publict humiliation and abstinence.

16th May.—Androw Gray for being away fra the sermonis dyvers tymes is appointit to stand ouer nycht in the steipill untill the mornyng prayeris and pay halff merk.

19th May.—John Cok servitour to Alexander Pringill, for being out of the kirk on Sondaye last, he is appointit to stand in the steipill on Sonday nixt fra the morning till the ending of the eftirnones sermoun (except libertie to cum to heir the worde) and then cum befoir the sessioun and confes his fault and seik libertie to returne home and this same discipline to be vsit aganis all servandis apprehendit in the lyk offens without redemptioun. Jaspert Hay is content to be brydellit and he be found at pastyme the tyme of devyne seruice within this burgh. Andrew Davidsone for removing furth of the toun on the Sabbath day to pay ii s.

21st May.—James Cowtis, brabner, wes seik, wants the Lord's prayer, quhilk he promeist to lern. Geilis Duncan ordanit to set cautioun to lern hir creid.

23rd May.—John Gibsone's bastard sone climming nestis, William Youngis servandis abyding fra the kirk, Jonet Alsener in the bischop miln gangand throch the toun the tyme of the foirnone's sermone, Andro Mill climming nestis, James M'Kay nestis, Johne Beigis sone doing the same with the provestis

tuo sonnes and Thomas Hardie's tuo sonnes. Referris that to the maister.

26th May.—John Sutherland, alias Consciens, for drinking on Sonday last being a day of fast and humiliation, takand the name of God in vaine and swearing his woundis being wairdit fouir dayis in the stepill to mak his publict repentans three Sondays bairfut and bairleggit and for preparatioun of him thairunto sall cum on Saturday at evin and enter to the stepill and remane thair all nicht and on Sonday and present the stuill and quhen he comes doun to heir the word at eftirnone sall returne to the steipill and remain thair all the day upon breid and watter. Andro Vauis and Williame Innes for playand at the poirtbowlis on Sonday last to pay xl d. ilk ane.

6th June.—Delated William Leslie's tuo women careing beddis to thair new hous at the eftirnone's sermone. Janet Innes, spous to Alexander Milne, a commoun skalder, a blasphemar, a slanderar upoune the kingis grace hie gait to be put in the joggis next time and the third time to be banished.

13th June.—Issobell Nauchtie accusit for being fra the kirk pretendit the laik of a plaid. William Haye the baxter his servandis byderis fra the kirk and thairfoir all to be wairdit.

16th June.—James Grant, baxter, to be wairdit for not fulfilling the dayis of his repentance and for baiking on the Sabboth day. James Cuming, tailzeour, accusit for not lerning his beleiff. William Innes, elder, complenit upoun his wyff and upone his dauchter for thair banning and swearing. The minister to speik thame baith. James Dunbar, burges, is becum cautione under paynis of xls. that James Cuming sall lerne the beleiff betuix this and Lambmes next.

18th June.—The officiaris to avait on the fische mercat ilk day about in the mornyng the time of prayeris. Siclyk the mercattis to be intimat the morne and also in Forres on

Thuirsday next. Memorandum — the midsommer fyiris.

20th June.—James Patrick, searchar, fand no fault except —— Stronach, that ran doun through the towne.

27th June.—At eftirnone on Sonday Mr George Glaidstanis, bischop of Kaitnes, preachit 5 ca Zach.

9th July.—Stephen Johnstone committed to ward for insolence to the minister and Session. The minister complains that some of the Session had intercommuned with the excommunicat rebels, murtheraris, scheddaris of his motheris bluid and had ressauit thame into thair houses. Cristen Knox and Jonnet Blak to be baneist this toun immeditlie.

11th July.—Horner Fraser poyndit of a toanges in respect thair was folkis a drinking in her hous the tyme of the sermoun.

21st July.—James Jamesone, pypar, is continewit to the ministeris hamcuming for playing with ane pyp through the town.

15th August.—George Martein was makand a graiff the tyme of the foirnones sermon.

27th August.—It is appointit that Sonday nixtocum that the men of Glakmarres be summondit to compeir instantlie befor the session to gif a ressoun quhy they reservit a peix land to the deuill callit the Gudman's.

5th September.—Jonet Blak and Christen Knox to be put in waird.

10th September.—The barrounes to be aduerteist to convene to tak ordour with the brokkin men, lykas Alexander Boynd hes promeist to adverteis the Laird Duffous.

17th September.—Janet Blak hes actit her selff to remoue furth of this toun betuix this and the tuentie ane day of September nixt under the payne of birning her on the cheik and standing in the joiggis and kartit through the toun and syne baneist publictlie and nocht to returne without licence.

19th September.—Thair wes folkis in Henrie Stephanis hous drinkand at eftirnones sermoun, Johne Baxter and George Baxter

raid out of toun the tyme immediatlie befoir sermoun. It is appointit that thair be four elderis to vatche thair tyme about, tuo on the Ladie hill and tuo in the nether end to espy thais that gois to the feildis the tyme of preiching. The officiaris to poynd the landvard people absents fra the Kirk and that be advyse of thair elderis. Intimatioun to be maid on Sonday for better keiping eftirnonis preaching.

22nd September. — Margaret Andersone, spous to Henrye Stephin, committit to waird for keiping histilarie on Sonday adiudgit to remane thair till the evyning prayer. The master of the Grammar Schole promeist to delyver the key of the chalmer on Sattirday quhen he demittit the schole.

4th October.—The searcharis fand folkis drinkand in George Cullanis hous.

6th October.—The officiaris declarit that they fand Thomas Kynnaird and George Fentoun this day togidder in the said George's hous, also in Johne Mowis hous thair was Johne Angus and William Sutherland drinkand the tyme of the sermoun. The said day Williame Richertsone wes standand at his awin zet the tyme of sermoun. Comperit Elspet Richartsone and confessit that thair wes folkis drinkand in hir hous the tyme of sermoun on Sonday last for the quhilk and mair the lyk offences scho is committit till waird quhill scho pay Vs. to the officiaris and gif scho beis found relaps to pay Xs. to the officiaris. Johne Samsone for being thair paying horshyir sall pay iis., and William Stalker for being in that companie sall pay iis.

8th October.—The minister and elderis appointis that thair be a day of solempn abstinence on Sonday cum aucht dayis.

10th October. — A snawie day. The visitouris fand Wat Innes dur steikit and him self wes away fra the kirk; Henrie Stephyn's wyff in the hous; Beatrix Duff,

Nons Peirie [and fifteen others] absents fra the kirk.

13th October.—Agnes Perie and others for absens to pay iis. William Davidsone for hawing his owin [oven] gangand, baikand meat, sall pay Vs.

24th October.—Andrew Rag in Glakmorres confessit scheiring within the paroche of Langbryid on Sonday last.

24th October.—The Session fynding gryt danger through the resorting and remanying of dyveris straingeris within this burgh sic as —— Fraser, callit the young laird of Durris &c ordanis two discreit men of the Sessioun to go to them and bid thame to remove and the persones ressaittaris of thame to compeir befoir the Session to ansuer for resait of thame to despeshe thame within xlviii houris under the paynis of ten poundis money.

7th November. — The searcharis found Margaret Mill selling aill, Jonet Cowy selling aill.

17th November.—Jonnet Zoung vairdit, Davisone his sone vairdit and gif he be found fra the kirk on Sondayis salbe puneist with a belting.

21st November. — Thomas Kynnaird, searchar, delatit tuelff personis in William Pattones drinkand quho is poyndit thairfoir. William Brander, milner at the mylne off Quhytwray hes actit him selff that the milne of Quhitwray sall nocht grind on the Sabboth days sa lang as he is millar thairof under the paynis of 20 lib. attour the said Williame being accusit as airt and pairt of charming off wmquhill William Richartson by witchcraift as the said umquhill Alexander ——. The said William Brander maid faith be his gryt aith that he myndit no sick thing nother culd he do sick thing.

24th November.—Williame Pattounes wyff to pay half merk for the money slippis on the Sabboth daye.

10th December.—The heich for seattis in the loft to be reservit to the elderis and deacones.

James Robertsone, goldsmith, Elgin.

FIND OF AN OLD CATECHISM.

In the cover of one of the old Kirk-Session registers of Elgin are some loose papers, the oldest of which is of date 1578. These papers have evidently been placed there with a view to preservation, and one of them certainly deserves to be preserved as being of special interest. It is a MS. Catechism, in all likelihood the identical copy used by Robert Leslie, the reader of the church, about the year 1600, for catechising the young within the Church of St Giles, Elgin. It is written in a bold, legible hand, which is perhaps not to be wondered at seeing the Session allowed only a plack candle at the evening prayers, but a few years later they showed their generosity by allowing four candles on catechising nights, one, however, being considered sufficient at the ordinary evening prayers.

References to Catechisms frequently occur in the records. In the year 1597 the whole town had to come in turn to the church previous to the Communion to be catechised. This was at the time of evening prayers, for the congregation then met for daily prayer throughout the year. The elders went through their quarters and warned those in want of a "catecheis buik" to compear before the Session and explain why they had not provided themselves with a copy. At next meeting of the Session it was resolved to put the hand-bell through the town to warn the whole inhabitants to buy catechisms "sa lang as the merchantis ar in the toun," an entry which casts an interesting light on the bookselling

arrangements of the time. Householders thereafter in default were to be fined 40s, and the bailies were ordered by the Session to fine every person absent from the catechising 2s. These references probably apply to a more advanced Catechism, but the following seems to refer to the copy under consideration :—

1600, Dec. 12.—It is appointit that the bairnis repeit the commoun cathecheis this next oulk nychtlie.

The following extract shows how the instruction was carried out shortly before the introduction of the Catechism that has now been in use in Scotland for about two and a half centuries :—

1640, Dec. 11.—It was ordained be the Sessione that two scollers of the Gramer Schoole sould com to the kirk in the efternoone everie Sonday at the second bell ringing to say the Catechisme that the pepill may be instructed.

The title of this old Catechism, fragments of which are herewith appended, does not correspond to any of the Catechisms in the extensive list of early Catechisms given in Dr Mitchell's "Catechisms of the Second Reformation." It comes nearest in title to Rev. John Ball's Catechisms, one of which passed through twelve editions by the year 1628—

Ane short cateichising (on) the principall grounds of Christian Religioun for the Instruction of every Christian Famelie.

Question. Quha made man?
Ansuere. God.
Q. In quhat estate made he him?
A. Perfite haly in body and saull.
Q. To quhat end was he made?
A. To serve God.
Q. Quhat seruice craued God under obedience ?
A. Perfite obedience to his commandments.
Q. Continued he under obedience?
A. Na: bot brake ye commandment of God.
Q. Quhat punishment followed thairon?
A. Death of body and saul to him and his.

Q. How are we deliuerit thairfrie?
A. Be the free mercie of God in Chryst Jesus without our deseruing.
Q. Quhat kind of person is Chryst Jesus?
A. Very God and very man in one person.
Q. Quhat hes he done for our deliuerance?
A. He died for our sinnes and rose for our righteousnes.
Q. Are all men deliuered from death and eternal damnation?

. . . . . .

Q. What call ze the [word]?
A. All that is vritten in the buik of God called the Ald and New Testament.
Q. Quhat cal ze ane Sacrament?
A. The haly ordinance of God, be certane outward actionis setting forth and offering clearlie to all the Lord Jesus with all his graces and truly giuing him vnto saluatioun to all them that worthely receive.
Q. Quhy sayis yow worthely?
A. Because they that receive unwoorthelie receiue thair awin damnation.
Q. How many Sacramen's is there?
A. Twa: baptisme and the Lord's supper.
Q. Quhat does baptisme to thy faith?
A. It seales vpoun washing from sinne in the blood of Chryst and my entrie into the kirk.
Q. Quhat doth the supper of the Lord to thy faith?
A. It seales up my spirituall nurishment in the kirk be the body and blood of Christ and union with him.
Q. Howe is true faith knawin in man?
A. By his works done according to the commandement of God.
Q. Reherse the commandments?
A. Harken and take heed Israell.
Q. Quhat teaches thir commandements zow?
A. My duetie touardes God and my neighbour.
Q. Quhat is zour duety to God?
A. To loue him with all my soule, hart and mind.
Q. Quhat is zour duety to zour neighbour?
A. To loue him as my self.
Q. Are ze able to do thir workes perfytlie?

. . . . . .

Q. Quhat call ze faith?
A. Ane assured knauledge that the promises of

mercy and saluation in Chryst belangis to all the faithfull and . . .

Q. . . . headis of your faith?

A. I beleeve in God the Father Almighty.

Q. Quha werkis this faith in zow?

. . . . . .

1603.

2d Jan.—George Fentoun is becum cautioun that David Thomsone and Jonnet Lumsdell sall keip the eftirnonis preaching, and haif no menstrall this day [a marcat day] under the painis of ten poundis.

12th Jan. — The glassin wrycht callit Michaell inhibit to beg almes on the sermone dayis under the payne of banischment, lykas all the puir ar forbiddine to beg almous on theis dayes.

14th Jan.—Their was a rair conventione among the women. James Mill was ane, thare was Heling Hay and Magy Duncan zeid out and sua contention among the women eftirnone.

21st Jan.—Licens granted to the Mr of Scholl to teach on Sonday.

4th Feb.—The futball to be inhibit furth out of the pulpit on Sonday nixt.

8th Feb. — Bessie Thorntoune, spous to Thomas Hay, decernit to pay 6s 8d for keiping houstillrie on Sonday the tym of sermoun. Marget Nauchtye inhibit to resew onie persone to drinking eftir the secund bell.

13th March.—Thomas Hay, searcher, fand dyvers passing to the mercat.

22d March.—John Geddes and John Warden accusit for not avaiting on the breddis.

25th March.—Comperit John Warden and denyit that the breddis war delyverit to him the nycht befoir.

1st April.—John Gibson for slandering the minister a long tyme bygaine to stand four days in sackcloth, becaus it wes the spotting of his pastouris honestie.

14th April.—The minister regratit to the bailzeis present, and said ze se the mornyng fische mercat is evir a great impediment staying the peopill frome resorting to the mornying prayeris, and thairfoir of new as he haid oft tymes requestit the magistratis to provide remeid, and to the end that the same may be helpit the haill bailzeis and elderis to be present on Sondaye to the eftirnonis sessioun. Andro Rob, maltm ·ne, admoneishit to vse a grytar reuerens in his speache and speciallie to forbeir swearing of aithis. Johnne Angus delatit Marjorie Baxter, Margatt Thomesone, George Cullane, and his wyff, oppin skolderis on the hie waye, as also Jonet Zoung and Isbell Torrie skolderis.

17th April.—Convenit the minister and all the elderis. Nothing found done amiss this daye as the searcharis testefeit.

22nd April.—Mariorie Baxter for being this day the tyme of sermoun in the fische mercat to pay xld or scho cum furth of waird. It is appointit that thair be a solempn day of abstinence and fasting keipit befoir the celebration of the communion and to that effect it is thocht gude that Sondaye cum aucht dayis be the daye.

24th April.—George Ker a stranger ressauit xiiis and iiijd. charitie.

26th April.—Walter Haye, goldsmith, to be brocht to this place or then to the consall on Thursdaye to gif his aith that he sall gif no teakynes to ony of the people. The haill elderis to visie thair paroches and seik furth all elestis and thaireftir as they fynd to travell for reconciliatioun. Mariorie — — for being in the fische mercat on Tuysday the tym of preaching is convict in the penaltie. Alexander Pringill, at the desyre of the minister and elders h·s contentit to gif to Johne Pringill his naturall sone ane stand of gray claithis with this provisioun that gif he live nocht honestlie and lautefullie that he sall neuir have acc·ss among the members of this congregation to remane within the sayme

bot to be ane exyle. Alexander Riach, Kathren Sutherland and Isbell Mowatt, personis found this day aucht dayis in the fische mercat thairfoir to redeme thair poyndis at the officiaris handis.

29th April.—It is appointit that the minister mak intimatioun furth of pulpit on Sonday nixt that thair wilbe seruice and communion in the mornyng about six houris in the morning and another at ten houris that the people may address thame selves, and speciallie the seruandis and a sermoun to be on Saturday nixt.

1st May.—A day of abstinence. Convenit the minister and all the elderis fand no misordour save of the strainger sturdie beggaris quho wer full and dronkin and haid mekill poll bourdon stavis with sterk headis of irone quhilk the officiar tak home quhill they wer tryit and keip thair staffis

3rd May.—George Brodie to be spokin for wyne to the Communion, becaus the gundman of Leucheris refusis to provyd furnitour thairto.

6th May.—Williame Mylne, collector, to caus repair the stwillis to the communion. The officiaris commandit to go throch thair quarteris to bid all come the morne to the sermoun in the mornyng at aucht houris and all the inhabitants of the burgh forbeir thair laubour a day preceiding the Communion. Licence grantit to my Lord Lovat to communicat as he desyris.

7th May.—The elderis sall travell for removing of thir elestis in the nixt week. Waiteris on the duiris for reassauing of the teakynis and almes: — George Cumming, James Patrik, James Lesly, John Bonnyman at ten hours, Robert Innes, Robert Sutherland and young Thome Mill in the mornynge, Johne Robertsone and the fouir deacones to avait on the vyne. The first bell to begin at fouir houris in the mornyng and the last bell to the mornyngis ministratioun to end at sex houris. Touching the disordour movit betuix

Helen Wallace and Agnes Umfray in the kirk on Tuysday. Agnes admittit the probatioun of hir caus to the tryall of all honest nychtbouris that wer thair present.

8th May.—The Sessioun fand fault with Johne Robertsone for taking the man out of waird quho brocht with him a wrang teakin.

10th May.—Saturdayis Sermone. It is specialie appointit that thair be na maner of labouring afoir the mornyng sermoun on Saturdaye under the paynis of fyve pundis and that all baith maister and seruand keip the preaching.

13th May.—James Cuming, tailzeour, bebarrit fra the Communion for ignorans.

14th May.—Agnes Kay to be vairdit in the steipill for bannyng and swearing and in cace scho be deprehendit in the lyk fault to pay xs. James Patrik to gang to Helen Wallace, John Baxteris wyff, to schow hir that in cace scho iniure ony of the towniswomen heireftir in the kirk, as scho hes alredie done, scho salbe puneished in saccloth lykwayis that scho follow nocht John Lesleis wyffe to the place scho sittis in. Thomas Hay, Robert Keyth, Thomas Winchester and James Donaldsone, deacons, to avait on the materiallis. William Zoung and Alexander Pringill to avait on the durris and the remanent elderis to avait on the ministration at the tables.

23rd May.—Comperit Dauid Murray and being suorne delaitit the personis eftir following to bein dansing on the Communion day at ewin imprimis, viz., Elspet Mawar, Bessie Corben, Effie Umphray, Magy Mowat, Agnes Vilsoun, Christen Fraser, John Robertsoun, Cowper, delatis Meg Gadderar, Elspet Brownie and delatit Alexander Andersone, fleschar as collectour to the pyper *Lownis*. James Pattoun delates Johne Skaldkaill and James Thoaw, James Torres, skynner, William Skynner and his sone, Alexander Grant, tailzeour, William Graye, Robert Torrie, John Sutherland, younger, John Gibsoun, younger

Thome Ga, James Synclar, all playand in the Castell of Spynie the tyme of the sermone befoir none and playand thair at the allay bowallis under the said Castell of Spynie on 22d May. Comperit Martha Innes quho being inquerit quhat actioun or ernand scho haid to go on Sonday to Spynie scho ansuerit scho zeid thai for zairne. Thomas M'Ean said he zeid thair for siluer fra Thomas Duncan. Jonet Wulsone grantis hir dancing on Sonday cum (sic) aucht dayis, Bessie Corben grantis, Effie Umfray grantis, Jonet Stewart zeid to Spynie dancit thair in this toune, James Pattoun appointit to be present on Fryday, John Skadkaill and Andrew Thoaw wer on Sondaye in the place of Spynie. It is appointit that the remanent of the danseris be summonded and the pyper.

24th May.—Heir followis the excusis pretendit of certane that haid nocht come to the Communion at this tyme:—Margat Forsyth pretendis scho micht nocht wone furth be ressoun scho was stayit be a seik bairne, Jonnet Adam pretendit the lyk and micht nocht cum. Thair ressonis repellit. James Jowall wantis his beleiff, Agnes Peterkin wants hir beleiff, William Mill vants his beleiff, Arthour Pantoun allegit he was nocht tymouslie warnit, Thomas Gadderar micht nocht come for his maiesteis service, James Jonkin allegit the same, Margaret Grig wantis hir beleive, Katherein Wat lyand a childbirth of tuo twynnes, Elspet Rannold allegit the slander of hir housband. This tuo last excuisis admittit. Margaret Norrie hes set Alexander Sutherland cautioun that scho sall lerne hir beleiff betuix this and Lambnes nixt wnder the paynis of xxs.

31st May.—Annapill Chalmer accusit of deforcing of the officiar also for halding fast the dur the tyme of searching and for hawing with her in the hous the tyme of sermoun Elspet Sinclair, dauchter to Marioun Innes and ane Margaret Craig the said Annapill granted thairfoir committit to the steipill. Compeirit

Elspet Richartsoun confessit dancing on the communion day bot scho did nocht communicat that day and thairfoir sall mak hir publict repentans ane day thairfoir. Elspet Sinclair confessit bot it was in another toun. Margaret Cokburn confessit. Marioun Cowie confessit. Jonet Stewart confessit bot it was outwith this toun, neyther was it the day of communion. Nochtwithstanding all to be wairdit quhill evening and pay ilk ane of thame xld. money. Alexander Anderson, fleschar, confessit his being besyid on the communion day quhan they dancit and gatherit up the pyperis vagis and thairfoir sall pay fyve schillingis or he came furth of waird.

3rd June.—James Murdoche in Nether Monbeins pretendis excuis that his stay fra the communion was beressoun that another callit James Cok bewitched him and he houpit to get amendis of him, Agnes Smyth pretendit excuis scho ves lyand a child birth then, admitt. George Zoung pretendis stryffe betwein him and Thomas Runsiman, James Cok pretendis stryffe betwein him and James Murdoche. Helen Innes wes lyand seik of child birth, admittit. George King was stayit, for he haid nocht maid his repentans at that tyme, William Dunbar is becum cautioun for Margat Gadderar that scho shall nocht dans on Sabboth dayis during hir being seruice with him in pane of xs. [So of the others]. Andrew Gordoun in Elgin is becum cautioun that George Young sall lern his belieff betuix this and midsommer next under the paynis of xxs. and he actit to releif him. [So of six others].

7th June.—William Masone to be baneist gif he be found drinkin, absent fra the kirk or playand at the kyllis or injureing the officeris.

10th June.—John Sutherland, Consciens, pretendit excuis the want of his tickat.

12th June.—Stark beggaris to be removit.

14th June.—Agnes Allan pretendit excus

of seiknes and wantis her beleiff. To lern it betuix this and the day fywtein dayis under the paynis of standing in the joiggis.

17th June.—William Cuming, cordiner, denyit the turning the schiff and sheir [The riddle, or sieve, and the shears, a mode of divination for the discovery of theft] bot David Duncane, seruitor to David Torrie, Bessie Meldrum and Margaret Tailzeour wer that tym with him.

17th June.—David Schir appointit to remow vndir the paynis of nailing his ear to the throne (trone) and his removing to be within fourty aucht houris.

19th June.—The ministeris demandis. The minister askit the voitis of the eldaris present tuoching the threatning of him at the auld laird of Earnsydis buriall, gif thei thocht he wes weill usit be the lairdis of Innes and Innermarkie and be gudmane of Coxtoun and thei answeirit that he was not weill usit and gif thei wald concur with him to tak his part in trying the offens and assist him be law and justice be his complent to the magistrat and thei ansuerit that thei wald according to ressoun, thir woitis wer gadderit be Thomas Hay, court clarke.

8th July. — Alexander Cuming in the College is bruitit with his womane that he led burne on Sonday last.

15th July.—Alexander Cuming confessit his man brocht in burne about aucht houris att ewin and thairfoir his man to be censurit of fowrtye pennies.

17th July.—The elderis for mitigation of the rigor of the Act maid anent sclanderis appoyntis Isobell Stewart to pay 40s. and mak her publict repentans ane Sonday in hir awin place and thaireftir rys and tak the Mr. be the hand and he sall rys and ressaue hir and remit hir.

19th July.—Great fault found with rarenes of the conventioun this daye.

Sondaye, 24th July.—Ane proclamation to be maid that thair be na mercat this nycht

and that thair go sindry of the nychtbouris up throch the toun and sum throch the towne.

31st July.—Jonnet Watsone confessit the inbringing of burne [water] on the Sabboth day on a necessitye thairfoir to confes hir offens publictlie in the congregation in hir awin seat.

14th August. — James Patrik, searchar, quho deprehendit the tym of sermoun James Pattounes wyff and Elspet Richartsoun selling drink and the dur fastnit on them. Thomas Mill and George Sutherland, searcharis, found Agnes Alves, spous to Andrew Tailzeour doing syndrie in hir awin hous the preching tym. They notit Elspet Winchester contempnar of the word, mair, Katherein Bailzie, John Culbakis wyffe and hir sister zeid out of the toun this day, Janet Fraser, contempnar of the word and thairfoir to be committit to waird. Mair it is concluded that all the elders go the morne throch thair quarteris to get knawledge of the causis of samony being away this day; ilk elder to be obleist heirto under the paynis of xs.

16th August.—Convenit the minister with the landvaird and townis elderis. Johnne Mill, elder of Monbeins, declairis that thair is mony folkis seik as his wyff Margat Hoissak, Agnes Brabner. Alexander Russall declaris that Margaret Schuray is seik, delatis William Gadderar, contempner of the word. William Russall, elder, declaris that his sonne Dauid is seik, delatis Dauid Allane contempner and his wyffe, Thomas Runsimane and his wyffe all the duellaris in Bougsyd contempneris of the word and Patrik Mill is seik. Johne Gordoun, elder, delatis all the inhabitantis of Mostowie dishauntaris of the kirk and thair is seik thair John Thayne, Patrik Lay. Andrew Gray, Gilbert Schiphird, elder, delatis the people of Quhitfeild, dishauntaris of the kirk. Seik folks thair Magy Jonkin, Agnes Peterkin, Elspet Gadderar. Anthone Chalmer, elder, delatis mony of the Frosterseat to be dishauntaris of the kirk. Seik folks thair

William Cant, Androw Zownie. Robert Sim, elder, delatis Scottistounhill and Pitgony contempnaris. Seik folks thair Margaret Alsoner, Sandie Innes, seik. Thomas Tulloche, elder, delatis John Geddes a contempner of the word. Seik folks Margat Muffat, Robert Tul oche. Robert Keyth, elder, delatis baith Blakhillis and Glakmarres ill keiparis of the kirk. Seik folks thair John Man, James Brown, Alexander Sandison, Elspet Tailzour. Forther the said Robert delatis the tennentis of Glakmarres to haue left a peice land to the gudmane (deuill) for the noltis caus. Alexander Innes, elder, delatis the haill cottaris of Quhytwray, contempnaris of the word. Seik folks thair Alexander Stronach, Elspet Andersoun, Elspet Wat, Walter Innes. Johne Annand, elder, the men of the Boug, Lynkwoid, contempnaris of the kirk. Seik folkis thair David Patrie, Marioun Donaldsoun, Christen Geddes, Johnne Fyndlay, Scherestoun dishantaris, Barmukattie dishantaris. Item it is appointit that the landvaird elderis bring in with thame thair parrochioneris on the Sabboth and they to be warnit to that effect. Alexander Pringill, ane townis elder giffis the names of the seik within his precinct Sandie Mayne [and five others]. Johne Leslie, a college elder delatis Christen Winchester a dishaunter of the kirk. George Cuming, colleg elder, sayis that Watt Innes hes tuo bairnes seik. Williame Mill, collectour, sayis and delatis Effie Gadderar, Agnes Alves pleymakeris and aither of thame haid another be the hair. Thomas Mill, townis elder, delatis the Cumingis in the Blakfreir wynd to be gryt banneris and flyttaris and delatis Thomas James and his houshald contempnaris of the word, Jonnet Keir, contempnar, John Gadderar, contempner. Agnes Rague compleins on William Cuming his eldest sone and his wyffe for banning of hir and thairfoir instantlie to be wairdit. Johnne Gadderar for wattering his plants on Sonday in July last to entir on

Satturday at evin to waird and on Sonday nixt mak his repentans. Alexander Pringill tellis that thair is a housfull of seik strainger folk in James Innes in the head of the toun. John Robertsoun, elder, delaitis Martha Dunbar and Mariorie Smyth, contempnaris ; seik folkis—Androw Kaye, Agnes Fraser, Elspet Robertsovn, Meg Robertsoun.

21st August,—The minister inquirit gif all the landvard elderis haid searchit thair quarteris conforme to the ordour prescryvit and gif they bad thair peopill convein with thame and come in this Sonday and all the remanent Sondayis during the harvest to heir the word baith befoir and eftirnoone, thai ansuerit yea. Alexander Russall, elder, delatis William Johnestoun in Auchtertyir to haue bein leadand cornis out of Innerlochtie to Bougsyid on Sondaye and thairfoir to be chairgit to compeir on Tuyisday. Siclyik the minister requistit and besoucht the elderis to be ringleadaris of the people to keip the Sondayis in heiring the word.

26th August. — Agnes Alues accusit for mesouring of claith on Sonday the tym of sermoun and thairfoir deserues discipline zit nocht the les upoun houp of forbeiring the lyk scho is ouer luikit at this tyme and admoneished of her deutie.

28th August.—Compeirit ane boy callit Gordoun, sone to Androw Gordoun in this toun quho declairit that he laickit zit the benefit of the sacrament of baptisme and thairfoir ernestlie requestit to caus the same spirituall seall be ministred unto him seing that he beleued to be saued throche the blude of the sauiour and mediatour Chryst Jesus and haid . . . and wald confes the soum of the Christiane faith quhilk he did and thairfoir and inrespect thairof causit Robert Leslie, minister at Birney, to bapteis him instantlie at thair dissoluing quho ves bapteizit Johnne.

5th September.—Helen Leslie and Helen Hay, for deforcing the officiar, to be poindit

and wairdit. John Cokburn reprovit for halding the bischopmiln grindand on the Sabboth dayis an uerit that he did no utherwayis then nychtbouris did. William Tarres forbiddin to do business on the Sabboth.

9th September.—Becaus my Lord Fyvie, president of Scotland, provest of this burgh, is to present on Sonday, thairfoir the searcharis to be the mair tymous and dilligent and to that purpois Thomas Mill, William Torrie. John Robertsoun to avait on the vest part and James Leslie, John Bonyman and Alexander Innes for the eist to convein at aucht houris in the mornyng.

11th September.—The searcharis declairit that George Brodeis wyff deforcit and that they apprehendit John a Consciens passing throch the calsaye with three scheip skynnis. Further Margat. Scheues, spous to William Cuming, dishanter of the kirk. Androw Edie was fra the kirk the last bell. Agnes Alues haid dyvers drinkand in the hous at the last bell. Agnes Alues to pay 40d. Christen Forbes inhibit to lat any folkis remane in the hous to drink quhen scho is in the kirk. James Cuming bittirlie spokin for being out of the kirk on Sonday and for nocht lerning the articles of the crede.

16th September.—The elderschipe comandis to charge Agnes Alues to waird for breking of arreistment. Siclyk Helen Hay for injureing the officiar and deforcing Alexander Mill, officiar, and for her contumacie sall pay halffmerk and gif scho dois the lyk sall mak hir publict repentans and pay 40s.

20th September.—Helen Hay confessing a new iniurie done to the officiar and for her unreuerent behauiour to the juges is ordanit to be wairdit.

23rd September.—Helen Hay to mak hir publict repentans on the commoun pillar.

25th September. — Apprehendit be the searcharis fra the kirk this day Robe Browne, Androw Edie, Sandie Leang his wyff, Thomas Clarkis wyff, Thomas Richartsoun deforcit,

Mariorie Peirson deforcit, and Agnes Gauld blasphemit the officiar and thairfoir to be snmmondit euerie ane of thame to Tuysday nixt.

27th September.—Agnes Gauld, Vallace, spous to Thomas Clark, Mariorie Peirsoun all committit to waird till they pay ij s., and Mariorie Peirsoun xl d. Item Andro Edie and Browneis to be committit to waird.

30th September.—Androw Fadie to pay half mark.

7th October.—The minister fand great fault with the officiaris becaus of their gryt negligens in the caus of God and thairfonr exhortit the bailleis and the saidis officiaris to hald bettir hand to the wark of God.

11th October.—Absents fra the kirk on Sonday last wairdit—Malle Johnstoun [and ten others, men and women].

11th October.—Newlandis, so callit, led corne in harvest on the Sabboth daye. Robert Fyndlay in Petgony and Elspet Fyndlay, scheraris of corne, Effie Gray, glenning corne, Margit Forsyth schire corne.

23rd October. — The womane that is in George Annand's hous to be summond. Elspet Robertsoun for hyiding hir wnder the caldroun to pay iiij s.

25th October.—Elspet Mill in Innerlochtie confessis the scheiring of four scheavis on a Sonday in harvest and thairfoir to be wairdit untill scho get cautioun to compeir on Fryday nixt.

28th October.—It is aggreit that the landward elderis continew in thair offices this zeir as they did fairnezeir. Four elderis for each of the four quarters also four deacons (in all).

1st November.—George King denyit any scheiring on the Sabboth day.—Henrie do. except of ane scheave quhilk is referrit to be tryit be John Gordoun.

4th November.—All maisteris of famileis to keip the Tuysdayis preaching under the pain of halff mairk.

15th November.—Jonnet Winchester for awaybyding fra the kirk to pay xiid., the next fault to be xld.

18th November.—Agnes Anderson for being absent fra the kirk to pay xld. The second fault doubled.

20th November.—Horner's wife [and eleven others, mostly women] apprehendit fra the kirk.

22nd November.—Walter Innes admoneished to haunt and repair to the kirk oftener then he wes wount to do. Jonnet Cuik, spous to James Cowie, for selling drink the tyme of the Sondayis sermone committit to waird.

27th November.—Names of all eldaris admitted 6th November last both landward and burgh also deacons [Here given]

29th November.—The minister accusit the contempt of the worde and the negligens of the officiaris and regratit the mater heavilie and thairfour desyrit the bailzies to puneis the officiaris conforme to the act maid anent thair puneischment in sic caces.

10th December.—It is thocht expedient that the catecheising begyne at Lossie Wynd on Mononday next and thir tway nychtis preceiding be occupeit in reiding of the catecheis to the haill peopill.

3rd December.—The hers to be houng the morne and the haill eldaris to be present with thair quarteris to heir and lerne the cathecheis.

11th December.—This day a catholog of the candill was maid.

John Cowie, armourer.

The act anent the Channonrie Kirk anent guysing, dansing and wther vaniteis and misreuerens to be intimat on Saturday next.

18th December.—The searcharis apprehendit Androw Donaldsoun, cordiner, lastand schone and twa women in William Innes, cordineris hous the tyme of sermone. It is appointit that strong beggaris be commandit to remove be the sound of the handbell and

that all the townis folkis be inhibit to giff them ludging &c.

23rd December.—Licence grantit to the schollaris for to playe aucht dayis and ilk day anis to be in the schoill, nocht to haunt the Channonrie kirkzeard nor the kirk thairoff nor watteris nor hiegait and thaireftir to continew uther aucht dayis.

Penult December. — Alexander Duff, seruand, accusit *inter alia* of being out of his maisteris house that nycht of the great wynd. He allegit he was lyand seik in his fatheris hous that nycht.

1604.

1st January.—Tyberius Winchester accusit for transgressing the actis maid for keiping of a christiane and decent ordour about the tymes obseruit be sum superstitiouslie and prophanelie for having a bedcod on his heid and ryding thairwith throuche the toun on the tuentie sext day last bypast of December quhilk the said Tyberius confessit, also for uttering uncomlie speaches.

3rd January.—Jonet Wulsoun and Meg Gadderar accusit for dancing on Sonday last befoir the Shereffis zet. William Pattoun delatit to haue been singand hagmonayis on Saturday and thairfoir to be summondit to Fryday next.

8th January.—It is ordanit that Tyberius Winchester sall paye fyve pundis money *ad pios usus* for his misreuereus and contravening the act for inhibiting of guysing through the toun seing he confessit the having of a cod on his head through the toune.

10th January.—Thair zeid furth this daye the tyme of preaching Christen Forbes, Jonnet Nicoll, Marioune Murray, Helene Hay all to be summonit. Jonnet Smyth confessit the ringing of a pan with the knewill [a wooden pin in the end of a halter, &c., for holding by] of a hairie raip. The said Jonnet deponit that scho hard another bevest hir ringand a

girdell ; for this caus all the foikis thairabout to be warnit to Fryday. Marjorie James sayis that scho hard Willie Gadderar sone to Alexander Gadderar say that he knew quho it was that wes ringand a chandler [candlestick] that nycht.

13th Jannary.—Ordanis the women that zeid furth of the kirk to be poyndit. James Donaldsoun admoneished nocht to remoue furth of the kirk quhill the ending of the sermone and geving of the blissing, as also that the said James oppin nocht his buith dur on the Sabboth day. (Memorandum—To luik out the Act for ringing of chandlers, pannis, &c.) The catecheis on the Lordis Supper to begyn on Tuysday nixt and Sonday come a fyveten dayis to be the first day of the Communion and Monondaye come aucht dayis to examyn the landvard folkis.

15th January.—The searcharis apprehendit dyvers personis lyand in thair bed the tyme off sermone, viz—Marjorie Leslie, Alexander Smyth, Marjorie Cowie, Jean Jhonne. Sowter Barrowmane perturbit the kirk the samyn tyme. Williame Leang, William Dunbarris wyiff awaye fra the kirk, Jhone Jamesone having folkis in his hous, Jhone Mowis womane vagand. It is appointit be the elderschipe that thair be dyvers catechesis of the Lord's Supper put into wret and delyverit to the honest men of the toun.

17th January.—Marjorie Cowie committit to waird for her misbehauiour being vagand on the Lord's daye and also being without a maister in the middis of the zeir betweyne termes and having no certane duelling place. Elspet Haye and Margaret Richartsoune to pay 3s 4d ilk ane of thame for removing furth of the kirk.

20th January.—*The hail tou es folkis.* Convenit the minister and elders and dyvers other honest men of the toune, viz., Thomas Hay, clerk, George Vauis [and 33 others]. It is votit and concludit be the Assemblie that

thair be a day of solempne humiliatioun and fasting keipit on Sonday nixt becaus it is a preparation to the celebration of the Communion quhilk is to be done on Sonday thaireftir, to be proclamit the morne be sound of the hand bell and to intime lykwayis be sound thairof that Tuyisdaye next and Saterday thaireftir be obseruit as tuo dayis of humiliation and doctrein to be on baith theis dayis befoir and efternone and no publict serueill vark to be wrocht thairon and that this ordour be obseruit thir thrie next weekis as preparationis immediatlie preceiding the Sacrament. It is thocht gude that the haill honest folkis communicat the next Sonday eftir the first preparation Sabboth as also that the mornyng sermons begyne at sex houris and evenyng sermonis at fyve houris and the personis awaybydaris fra the sermonis sall mak thair publict repentans and publict labouraris sall pay fywe pundis and for the better preparation that thair preceid a tymous reconciliation quhair ever any elestis ar.

[The minister offers to refer any elest he is concerned in to the Council as judges and so must others. If any refuse, the Council will "censure thame ciuilie and the minister proceid aganis thame ecclesiasticallie."]

The haill assemblie concludes that all the inhabitantis of this burgh submit their elestis to the Councill and Session. It is concludit that the minister proceid aganis the persons contempnaris of the sacrament with the censures of the kirk to the extremitie. The sacrament to be on three Sondayes.

27th January.—The tokynnis to be gevin this nycht and the morne.

28th January.—All the elderis to await on the table. Jhone Robertsone to await on the elementits of the wine and bread and to keip a just recknyng thairoff.

29th January.—On Tuysdaye onlie ane sermon and two sermones with abstinence on Saturday.

31st January.—Absentis that keipit thair buithis the tyme of preaching :—George Vauis, James Rutherfuird, Alexander Russall, Marjorie Dunbar for bringing in burne to brew, Williame Stalker for mukking and being fra the kirk, William Hay, baxter, for laubouring on Saturday, James Cowye for working with his hors, James Kay for passing furth of the hirk, Skaidkaill for passing furth, James Donaldsones wyiff for the same.

3rd February.—That nane remane in the kirk eftir the mornyng prayeris bot to remove that the tokynes may be delyverit. Searcharis the morne—Mr James Gardin [and four others].

5th February.—It is ordanit to be notit that the auld Ladye and young Ladie of Grant communicated this day awcht dayis. This daye the Laird Grant communicat and the guidwyff of Achanachie did communicat and the Ladie Dunbeith. Intimation of excommunication of non-communicants done this daye out of the pulpit.

7th February.—Satirdaye to be keipit a day of fast all the daye. The morne to be keipit as a fastand day and all publict warkis to ceis.

11th February.—Memorandum that it is ordanit the partie breaker of the promeis of mariag sall mak publict repentance for deluding the kirk.

12th February.—The zoung gudmane of Achinnachie, auld Dunbeith, Henre Sinclair his sone communicat this daye.

14th February.—The minister desyris the magistrattis to hald hand to the Tuisdayis preaching. The stranger puirfolk to be removit be the sound off the handbell and the townis puir to hald them owt.

17th February.—Tuentie merkis to be distributit to the puir be owir sicht off Johne Leslie and Thomas Mill younger.

24th February.—Sondaye eftirnone to speik anent the Tuisdayis preaching.

28th February.—The bailleis and elderis to travell with the cadgearis quhat howris thai will keipe and that they bring nocht in thair fische befoir the sermoun on Tuysday nor sell quhill it be endit. The masteris of housis and sick utheris as is not earnestlie occupeit and the warkis to be poyndit for byding awaye fra the Tuysdayis preaching and specialie that ewine the principall of the towne be poyndit as they be found refractor. The minister to keip the glass and no farder on the Tuisdayis preaching. Cristane Forbes, Isobell Mowat for bringing burne [carrying water]on Sundaye to pay 6s 8d ilk ane.

2nd March.—Elspet Haye to pay 40d for bringing in burne on Sonday last.

6th March.—It is agreit betuix the minister and elderis on the ane part and William Mortimer, glasinwrycht on the uther part for uphalding of the kirk vindois in glass and lead zeirlie sufficientlie that he sall haiw fouir libs money at tua termis in the zeir Witsondaye and Mertimes in winter of all hurtis and elestis and giff anie bodie brekis them to be puneist be the law eftir tryall befoir the magistrattis, the Sessioun fynding lyme and bandis.

11th March.—That day Mr Jhone Innes efter Robert Lesley rais set him selff under the pulpeit and pressit till haiff preachit and begane the prayer till he was stayit quhilk presumptione referris to the presbitrie. Jhone Cogiell foir clatering on the Sabbothe daye was poyndit.

16th March. — Jhone Mowis wyff to be pondit foir dissobedience and selling aill on Sondaye. Jhone Russell foir laboring on Sonday to be warnit.

18th March.—James Young delatit Jone Innes servitour to George Duncane, Patrik Andirsone, servitour to Widow Gordone, to be lowpand dyikis the tyme of the eftirnoins sermone, quha ar ordanit till be summondit till Tuisday. William Innes delatit zoung Symone Smyth, quho haid the dur steikit.

20th March.—James Innes buith dur to be reastit and him self wairdit.

25th March.—Clattering the tyme of the preaching — Patrik Guthrie [and others]. Robert Mawaris wyff [and others] went furth of the kirk. That day the secund admonition wes gevin be Mr Alexander Dowglas to Mr Johne Innes to desist and ceas fra usurping any part of the ministrye under the pane of excommunication.

1st April.—He got the last admonition.

15th April.—Delatit Robert Torrie, Alexander Urquhart, Arthour Urquhart playing in the Marques of Huntleis hous, James Duff, servitour to Donald Irving, the tym of the eftir nownes sermone at the clekken.

17th April.—Ordains the boyis playand in my Lord Huntlies hous to be wairdit.

30th April.—Delatit Christen Russell sittand in the Channonrie Kirk.

4th May.—Janet Winchester is inhibit to hant the Channonrie Kirk in praying, and in the meantym hes sworne solempnallie that scho sall not injure John Leslie be witchcraft, directlie nor indirectlie. Robert Keyth is caution that scho sall not praye in the Channonrie kirk nor pray malesounes to John Leslie nor to anye uther wnder the paynes of sitting in sacclaithe.

8th May.—The elderis fand greit falt with rarenes of the people at the sermone.

18th May.—It is noitit be the sessione that the wapinschaw and landimethis stay till another convenient, first, becaus of the pest, secundlie, becaus of the beirseid, thirdlie, for the abuises thei haue present, and the elderis to keip the sessione.

25th May.—Comperat Georg Annand and grantit that thair wapinschawing sall ceis untill the tym that the sessione thocht expedient to returne to the landimairis as they se occasioun. The bailzeis to speik the headis of craftis to stay fra this prophaine pastyme in respect of the estait of this present

tym of the fame and rumour of the pest, and all the honest men of the towne to be present at the evenyng prayeris.

28th May.—Margat Zowngsone deponis that scho hard Helen Haye saye to Thomas Robertsone theiffie, theiffie.

31st May.—Burnet, a woman of Aberdeen, to be warnit againe Fryday nixt to ken quhairfra scho cam. Andro Adamesone inhibit to hant my Lord Huntlies zeard the tyme of the sermone.

1st June.—Sic persones as remowis out of onie uther paroche to this paroche sall bring a testimonyall of the minister of that paroche quhairfra thei com, undir the paynes of excommunication and apecuniall penaltie The zowthe inhibit to keip forward thair May playis.

11th June.—George Duncane sleipand in his buith at eftir nowne. Williame Wilsone and his wyff zeid furth eftir none and brocht hame burdingis. John Culbak's cart full of peattis, and James Donaldsone another cart. Several at the port bowlis eftir and befor nowne.

13th June.—Transporting geir on Sonday forbiddin.

17th June.—Delaitted Alexander Cruschank with the folkis of Barmukattie and aucht hors with cartis going throw the colledg to the Deanis carrag. The minister intemit to the bailzeis that thei apprehend John Grantt of Carrone, excommunicat, utherwayis he will complein to the Lords of Counsall upon them gif thai suffer him to com within this burgh and be resaitt in loudging with anye inwith the samyn.

19th June.—Isbell Cumyng admonishit undir the paynes of excommunication nocht to ressaw John Grantt of Carron in to lodging. Willame Innes delaited ane Cowie singand on the calsay on Sonday last iwining. Effie Cowie denyit that scho knew nocht quho was singand under John Geddes' stair.

Williame Skynner to mak his publict repentance one Sonday, and pay half mark to the puir for bein drunkin on the Sabbothe day.

21st June.—Delyverit to Williame Gadderar ane chapine oilie and crease to the new bell.

26th June.—Williame Skaidkell for being fra the kirk on Sonday afoirnowne ordenit to be wairdit

29th June.—William Innes declairis that thair is thrie stranger women com into his quarter, ane of them into Dauid Donaldsone's hows callit Jonet Mackie. John Culbak inhibit to trawell on the Sabbothe daye heireftir. William Pedder actit wndir the payne of 20s to keip the kirk. James Donaldsone inhibit to travell on the Sabbothe day in anye tyme heireiftir in the paine of tuantie schilling, and conforme to the actis ma'd thairanent, quhilk is publict repentance.

1st July.—Thomas Haye declairit that the boy Patrie offendis his mother. Alexander Cumyng apprehendit at his awin burgh gawill, and William Pattone in the Channonrie kirk apprehendit be Mr James Gairdin.

10th July.—Elspet Cantand Gelis Gray maid thair fayth that thei sould nocht hurt another be witchcraft.

13th July.—Compeirit Georg Rob and said that Elspet Cantt said that scho suld gar him forthink that he keist a staine at hir calff and thairfor he tuik [haid ?] contracted greatt seiknes and in the meantym declairit that all the nychbouris knew that monie of all the headis of his corne war knott togidder and eftir that he fand his corne all bound togidder and growne blak and that he zeid to the Laird of Kelless his maister, tawld him and causit him sie that all his cornes war grown blak lyk zoung geis. James Rob compeirit and declairit that Androw Patreis kow revined was anes dead and eftir that Elspet Cantt hir aithe was taken the kow reviwed and the saidis James and Georg declairis that scho is iwill bruited of a witchcraft; mair, they

depone that thei hard hir say scho promeisit to them all ane iwill turne.

15th July.—Searcharis in the west. Alexander Pringill, Alexander Leang and John Duncane apprehendit pulling headis eftir the last bell at eftirnowne; John Froster dang his wyff eftir nowne behind the last bell. John Bonnyman, Alexander Innes searcharis eist apprehendit in Arche Grayis buyth eftir the last bell Symsone putting on his claithis.

22nd July.—Thomas Donaldsone to be summondit for steiking of his dur and not opinyng of it, John Auld drinkine, Nicolas Urwallis mane refuissis to cum to the kirk.

27th July.—It is appointed that all the elderis admoneishe thair quarteris to keip the Sabbothe daye wnder the paine of 20s. To admonishe thair slawnes to keep the prayeris and preaching and to admonish all perioches to keip the wek dayis prayeris.

29th July.—Georg Brodeis wyff sealling eall and wyne, Alexander Stewart patt a woman out at the back zett, Janet Zownge and John Rusell handling bowis (?) off lintt. The searcharis fand Jhone Auld sleipand in the back hous.

3rd August. — John Gordon, Mostowie, delaitit his people iwill keiperis of the kirk. Gilbert Shipperd, elder, declairit Quheitfeild and Litle Innerlochtie iwill keiparis of the kirk.

12th August.—William Mill, Nicolas Watsone searcharis. In John Gadderaris hous fand some drinkand; in Gillandris hous alsmonye; in Robert Brownes hous alsmonye; fra the kirk William Wulsone, cordinar, and his wyff, Margat Gadderar, spous to James Dumbar, George Brodeis man with cart and hors; zeard brekeris—James Muirisone in Sir William [? Douglas] zeard; in my Lord Huntleis zeard Isbell Cokburne, Marjori Winchister, Jonet Duncane dochter callit Cowie, Mage Brander, William Tarres, skynner, Isbel Cumyng man in hir awine

treis, James Yvel, Patrik Gairdin in the back zeardis.

14th August. — Robert Schand sall set cautione that the mylne of Linkwoid sall nocht gang on Sondayes.

17th August.—Mr Johne Merschell is become cautioun to Isbell Cokburne that scho sall be found passing tyme in zairdis on the Sabboth, tyme of sermone under the paynes of xls.

19th August.—Searcharis—William Zoung, John Geddes, Robert Sutherland, William Innes:—In Thomas Wattis zeard Sandie Kaye, Thomas Wattis, Janet Air careing drink, Alexander Dowglas and William Haye, in the Shereffis zeard, Alexander Dunbar, James Dunbar and his wyff. John Frosteris wyff gathering kaill, another with her; in my Lord Huntlie's zeard Duchinan &c., Litle Patrie and Mr Henrisone with sextein at the kyillis playing in the Channonrie kirk zeard.

21st August.—William Dawson has promeisitt to stay his mylne on grownd euerie Sabbothe daye. All the myllis to ceis within the paroch and myllaris to be warnit Tuisday. The minister protestit that quhat actis ar maid againes the millars of millis salbe putt to executione againes the brekaris thairoff and speciallie againes James Mill at the Walkmylne of Barmukattie quho this day confessit the breking thairoff.

24th August.—Girsall Innes sayis that scho bocht the gray clayth that hir coat is maid of fra Patrik Forsyth and scho gaiff xiiiis. for the elne and thair is bot twa elne in the coat.

26th August.—The searcharis at the eist persauit that William Dawsones mill wes gangand this day at sewin houres. James Zoung is become cautioun for James Mill at the Milne of Linkwoid that the milne callit the Walkmilne of Barmukattie sall nocht gang fra midnicht to midnicht on Sondaye under the paynis of ten merkis. Johne Gordoune in Mostowie is become cautioner

for Alexander Insche for his walkmyll in Lytill Innerlochtie under the paynes of ten merkis.

28th August.—William Dawsone promeisit to set cautioun that his mill sall nocht gang. The minister promeisit [? protestit] that gif any millar transgressit the actis of cautionarie thay sould be compellit to satisfie the actis and thame selues areisted quhill thai mak restitutioun of the multeris of uther milles ressait the thame. John Fleming and others delaitit as nycht walkeris and castaris of cloadis under the nycht.

30th August.—Patrik Myll in Bougsyid hes set James Dunbar cautioun that the myll of Bougsyid sall nocht gang on Sondayes and the said Patrik hes promesit to send in his millar on Tuysday nixt to be censurit. Johne Robertsoun is becum cautioun for Thomas Corsour, myllar at Mostowy (?) that the said milne sall not gang on Sondayes.

2nd September.—Visitors at the wast, Thomas Hay, George Sutherland :—Young Hay playand at the dyce. James Myll is becume cautioun for Thomas Hepburne and his man Nicoll Murdoch that the milne of Innerlochtie sall not gang on Sondayes.

7th September.—William Leslie is become caution for John Leslie that the milne of Quhytwraye sall nocht gang on the Sabboth dayes.

9th September. — Absentes — Thomas Andersone and his wyff baith before nowne and eftirnowne, George Stronah and his wyff quha haid also a pyper in his hous the tyme of the sermone, James Murisone haid tuelf personis in his hous drinkand the tyme of the sermoun, Gilbert Norrie cam eftir he was poindit.

11th September.—Thrie boyis for nycht walking committit to waird.

18th September.—Katherein Gordoun purgit hir on hir gryt aith that she haid neuir done any hurt to Robert Innes, his wyff or his bairnis by witchcraft nether can scho nor will

scho do him or ony utheris hurt eftir that forme, lyikas the said Robert maid his solempne and gryt ayth that he haid nocht nor wald nocht harme her or ony uther thairby and so they mutuallie made thair purgationis ane to another in face of the Sessioune.

21st September.—The searcharis to be on Sonday ar these—East ouer, James Leslie, Tyberius Winchester; west ouer, George Sutherland, James Donaldsone.

25th September. — Patrik Cuik for disobediens to our citation sall pay xl d and for being two Sondayes away fra the kirk, Margaret Scherir committed to waird for contempning the officiaris and for away-byiding fra the kirk, Alexander Rioche to pay xl d for tuilzeing of puir stranger folk and having them drinkand in his hous the tyme of the sermone, Isobell Dellas, a prophaner of the Sabboth, sall pay ii s. or els to waird tuo days in the tolboothe.

28th September. — Thomas Awis vyfe committit to waird till scho set cautioun to keip the Sondayes sermounes and for byganes to remane in the kirk till tuo houris eftirnone. Issobell Corrie commanded to keip the tyme of sermonis.

2nd October.—The cutlaris dauchter to be heir on Fryday.

5th October.—James Cuming appointed to keip the evening prayeris till he learne his beleive. Margaret Thomesone for hir being oftymes away fra the kirk is committed to waird. A fast appointed to be obseruit the tuay last Sondayes of this month and baith the weekis immediatlie following the Sabbothes and the catecheis upoune the last pairt of creid to begine thairefter to be catecheised ilk nycht.

7th October.—Searcharis—Thomas Hay, James Andersone: William Jamesone in his hous, Johnestounes dauchteris playand wort in the Chancellaris hous, William Tarres, younger, in his fatheris hous with some

wtheris thair drinkand, Jhone Straquhane selling drink at efternowne, David Angous thair, Andrew Donalsone thair with tham, Williame Skynnar and his mother at hame, Agnes Kay apprehendit in James Cowyes hous, William Davisone his tuo sonnes passing thair tyme, Jonnet Smyth gangand to the well afoirnowne and the officiaris hes poindit of thame all.

9th October.—William Tarres, younger, to pay ijs. for being fra the kirk and for his ill wordis to stand till the evenying prayeris in the tolbuith. Agnes Kay to pay ijs. and gif euir scho beis absent without lauchfull excuis to pay 20s. Williame Davisone's two boyes committit to waird. Thomas Umfraye for leading corne on the Sabboth day wes aucht dayis sall mak his publict repentans thairfoir on Sonday nixt. It is appointed and ordaned that the actis quhilk wes maid of a lang tyme bygane anent the inhibitioun of any pastymes making on the Sabboth be publictlie intimat furth of the pulpit that nane pretend ignorance thairof. Maister James Gairdin declairit that thair wer certane elderis at the golf playand on Sonday last quha haid promeisit amendment. William Ysone, skynner, aquavitie man, his banns given in.

23rd September.—Visitoris at the west delate Margat Scherar for banning of the officiar. Visitoris at the eist—Maister James Gairdin, Tyberius Winchester :—Isobell Dollas byding at home, George Zounges wyiff, Thomas Awis wyffe, Wm. Fyndlayis wyiff, Isbell Torrie and her mother sister, David Ga, Thomas Leslie's wyiff, Agnes Litill, John Patrick, all thais wer absent at efternowne.

30th September.—Jhone Gais sonnes at the futball, Patrik Andersone at the futball in Robert Sutherland's zaird.

12th October.—Margaret Jhonestoune inhibit to brew or work on the Sabboth day under the paynes of making her publict repentans. Election of elderis for the borrow :

Four quarteris, viz., S.W., N.W., N.E., and S.E. Four elders elected for each quarter and two for the Colledge.

14th October.—Delatit William Mill, servitor to William Leslie, for bringing in daillis.

21st October.—Castaris of stanis in the queir: Michaell Zoung, Thomas Scherar, Alexander Henrie in Mosstowie, Henrie Rag thair, Paul the tailzeour kuist stanes at Andrew Smyth being bairheadit.

23d October.—The persounes that maid misreull to be wairded. It is appointed that ane plak candill be provydit ilk nycht to the evening prayeris and to begyne with the same this nycht. The catecheis on the creide to be gewine to the fouir bailleis and to euerie ane of them ane.

28th October.—The landward elderis to convein with the townis elderis ilk xv dayes and ilk xv dayes to visie thair parroches and to repoirt.

13th November.—The candiles to be prowydit to the haeres [herse, an iron contrivance, like a harrow, for holding the lights] conforme to the last ordour.

25th November. — The searcharis delait William Irving, Sandie Sinclar, Jhone Gawis sone with xxx uther litle anes as Arthour Urquhard and Gauldis sone playand in the Channonrie kirkzaird.

[Postscript — 22d March, 1602. — Andro Puggatt cautioun for Jonet Haye sall lern xii articles of his beleiu betuix this and the day of the Communion under the paynis of xls. (So of eleven others.)]

25th November. — The searcharis delatit Jhone Mawis man bringing in stray the tyme of sermoun afoirnowne, and touching the cognosching the testimonialls reportit be William Ysoun, ane Cathnes man, quho hes remanit in this toun using his lauchfull trade in making of aquavitie and vsing the skynner crauft, the elderis referris the cognoshing thairof to the Laird of Dunbeath, &c.

Some entries of deaths occur in the Session Record, viz., 13th November, 1603, James Innes in the heid of the toun departit, and wes bureit eftirnone in the Channonrie kirkyaird.

7th December.—Comperit Jhone Mow quha declairit that the stray quhilk his man brocht in on Sonday wes nocht be his command nor with his knawlege. The elderis ordanis intimatioun to be maid furth of the pulpit that thair be no pastymes nor connectiounes usit in the Channonrie kirk nor zaird thairof under the paynes of the actis maid thairanent.

11th December.—The elderis ordanis sick persounes as wer absent on Sonday to be wairdit howsome thai can be apprehendit.

18th December.—The Bailzies and Elderis present hes grantit to the bairnes of the Grammer and Sang Schooles libertie to play till the thretteint day of the vacance provyding that the ordour be obsernit conforme to the actis set doun be the counsall and sessioun thairanent maid of dyvers zeiris befoir and that the maister convein thame anis a day for ordour takking in all thingis. Androw Smyth delatis Agnes Gibsone dancing in the Channonrie kirk contrar to the intimation and ordinance. Comperit Thomas Scherar and declarit that he met with Robe Torrie under the nicht and a suord in his haud quhilk he tuik fra him becaus he persauit of mynd to persew Sandie Williamesone thairwith and thairfoir the Sessionaris ordains that theis be present on Fryday.

25th December.—The haist to convoy my Lord Lovat and the tyme of preaching being of sic a space ordanis onlie for the present that the bailzeis go visie the kirkzaird of the Channonrie.

1605.

18TH JANUARY.—Alexander Anderson delatit for playing at the futball in the Chanonrie kirkzaird in the forbidden tymes. Also playand thair: Androw Smyth, James Leslie,

Alexr. Grant, tailzeour, William Fraser, and four others.

At the end of Vol. II of the Session records are two pages of baptismal entries of the year 1600, also the following entry of date February, 1598 :—"the boyis that wer playand on Sonday the tym of the sermoun to the croce of this brogh and be leishit thair for thair offence. Ilk houshalder to be ansuerabill for his seruandis and barnis that they be present at the sermonis upoun the Lordis day under the paynes of —— and the boyis that wer playand the tyme of the sermoun to be beltit." Here is a notice apparently read from the pulpit in 1598—"Forsamekill as Sonday the morne is appoyntit a daye of fast and abstinence through out this haill paroche and thairfoir I command in our Souerane Lord's name, provest, and bailzeis of this burgh and elderis of the parochin that their be na preparatioun of meattis within this burgh and parochin and speciallie within this burgh wnder the paynis of ten pundis, that thair be na pastyme nor na handiwark vsit within the same nor any uther kynd of exerceis bot only to convein to the kirk and vsing of spirituall exerceiss the saidis tua dayis . ."

Volume III., 1613-1622.—Mr Alexander Douglas, minister of Elgin from 1584, and made Bishop of Moray 1604 (consecrated, 1610). Mr David Philp admitted minister of Elgin April, 1613. The minutes from 1605 to 1613 are lost. The first entry in this volume begins—"xxi. March, 1613—Convenit the bischop and elderis."

1613.

25th March.—Bill of slander given in be Cristane Lyone aganis Elspet Edmound. Elspet callit her theiffis geit, and that hir father was borrowit from the widdie &c.

2nd April.—Meeting of Session. The Provost and others present, but not the minister. Frequent instances show that the meetings could then be legally constituted without the minister.

11th April. — Intimation made from the pulpit that the toun and parosh prepair them selffis to communicat wnder the panes contenit in the Act of Parliament.

13th April.—Collected 16s.

16th April.—Ordeins to dischairge laboring on Setterday efternoyne nixt befor the Communion. To adverteis the people quhan the bells sall ring. Item that na tounes folk sell meit or drink fra xii. houres furthe wnder the pain of v. lib. on Setterday.

17th April.—Communion. Convenit the bischop and elders ordening that nan enter in be takins. The first bell to ring at half hour to three in the morning, the seruands for the maist part to cum in the morning. Item for receaving the takins and keiping of the west dor, James Rutherfuird and Mr James Gardyne in the morning; at the east dor Johne Robertsone and William Innes and the east in the morning; Robert Innes and Johne Bonnyman at ten houris at the west, Mr Johne Douglas and James Douglas at the east.

18th April.—Collected £7 19s. Ordeins Patrick Gibsone and George Annand to be summondit again Tuysday next for nocht communicating.

20th April —Collected 8s Comperit Patrick Gibsone and satisfeit the elders with his ansuer and promisit to communicat the next Sonday.

25th April.—Convenit the bischop and elders being ane day of communion. Collected be the provest £6 11s 2d.

27th April.—The sessioun with consent of provest and bailzeis ordeins Johne Culbak to be depryuit of his fredome and libertie of the tonu for resetting of Alexander Hardie, ane

excommunicat persone aganes the tounis and sessioune acts to pay ten pounds money, also the strenthe of the actis to remain above his heid upone his guid behaviour and gif he commit the lyk again that he pay the remanent of the penaltie and banesit the toun immediatly therefter.

14th May.—Robert Corrie, Marjorie Mathowsone and William Gray have acted themselffis nocht to sell meit nor drink efter nyne houris at evin nather be found drunkin nather be nicht wakaris nather resett wtheris menis servandis to drink wnder the nicht wnder the pain of x lib.

16 May.—Ane admonitioun to Helen Ogilvie, Ladie Balnadalloche wnder the pain of excommunication to obey the kirk.

23rd May.—This day the guidman of Balnadalloche hes promesit to caus his wyff cum to the kirk and heir the word.

30th May.—Marcat dayis. It is ordenit and apoyntit that the haill cheif marcat dayis throchout the haill zeir sick as sall happin to fall wpone Mounday that it be changit to Tuysday therefter and the marcat evin to be on Mounday, that the Saboth day immediatly preceding may be keipit haly.

1st June.--Commoun Marcats—This day the drum passit throch the toun adwertesing all persones that ilk commoun marcat that happins to fall on Mononday sall be altert and chengit from Mononday to Twysday therefter and that for observatioun of the Saboth and keping it haly.

13th June.—Excommunication aganes the Ladie Balnadalloche. Intimatioun maid from the pulpeit to all persones that nane hant, frequent nor intercommoun with Helen Ogilvie, ladie Balladallache, no excommunicat wnder the pain of xl. lib. according to the actis of Parliament with leiff grantit be the kirk.

St Mihell Well.—Siclyk that all merchantis and all wtheris leave of to gang to the wall

at Stradoun callit Michell well wnder the pain of ten merkis penaltie *toties quoties*, punsching them in ther bodies and making of ther publict repentance.

15th June.—Thomas Hardie accusit for resetting and manteining his sone Alexander Hardie, ane excommunicat persone, quha was cautioun for putting him away immediatly efter he was relevit out of ward is found convict and therfor committit to ward quhill he pay xl. lib. according to the act of Parliament.

20th June. — Twysdayis sermoun — To admoneis the people from the pulpeit that they keipt the Twysdayis preitching and Sonday eftirnoyne better. *Portbowlis on the calsay on the Saboth.* Siclyk that na pastein be vsit publictly on the calsay sick as portbowlis or uther wagrie on the Saboth day wnder the pain of ane merk of penaltie and sic as hes no siluer to be wardit xlviii houris *toties quot es* they transgres this act.

25th June.—Margaret Skinner is found convict for sklandering Isobell Nisbet, be sufficient witnesses, therfor ordenit to mak hir repentance with ane paper about her heid and creave God and the pairtie offendit pardoun and hes actit hir selffe to be banesit gif evir scho be found flyting or skalding again.

2nd July.—Johne Oyr delyverit four merkis to the provest as cautioner for Doctor Ogilvie quha tuik in hand to cuir ane puir man's hand and did it nocht and the said Johne desyrit he micht have ther assistance to get repetitioun of his geir at the said doctor's handis quhan he cam in the toun quhilk they have promisit to interpone ther autoritie therto upon his adverteisment. The sessioun ordenis that gif ony persone beis found vaigand or going to Spynie on the Saboth day the tym of preitching or wagand ony wther way gif they be in bans (?) to pay 40s. and wtheris puha hes no geir to be wardit aucht dayis and

this act to be publishit and declarit to the qeople from the pulpeit.

20th July.—Licence grantit to William Lesly to speik with the ladie Balnadalloch for ending his compts with her.

23rd July.—Agnes Crystane Lyone and Elspet Edmond have acted ther selffis nevir to o flyet, skald nor miscall wtheris heirefter ilk ane wnder the pain of x. lib.

3rd August.—Maige Mathisone confessit beakinge in the oyne [baking in the oven] on Sonday sax houris.

31st August.—William Torrie comperit and being requerit quhy he lewche the tyme of preitching deponit his aith he lewche nocht at na word nor poynt of the preitching nor preitcher bot being movit be sum that sat besyd him that day and over anent him becaus they lewche upone him they movit him to lauche again and knew nocht wherat and promisit to refrain from the lyk again.

5th September.—Givin be William Cambell xxs becaus God relevit him in ane great storme on the sea.

Collections in September.—7th 9s 4d; 14th, 4s; 21st, 8s; 28th, 24s. The Session held twelve meetings in September. The minute sometimes runs thus "Convenit the Bischop and remanent elders." At other times the bishop was not present.

17th September.—It is ordenit that publict adverteisment be maid from the pulpeit advertesing all persones specially sick as usualy gif them selffis to sleiping that they dishant and abstein therfra certefeing them gif they will nocht abstein from sleiping the tyme of preitching they sall he citat befor the sessioun and be punischit in ther bodeis and guids as the sessioun sall think expedient and to the effect that nane pretend ignorance heirof this act to be publictly proclamit ou Sonday nixt from the pulpeit.

19th September.—To admonish James Lawis wyff that scho have no taverne on the Saboth day specially the tymes of preitching and prayer.

21st September.—Elspet Cuming, spous to James Petrie, burges of Elgen, gaif in ane bill of complaint upone Janet Nicoll, spous to Johne Warden alledging the said Janet hed sklanderit her of witchcraft and that scho hed witched Androw Wanes in his bodie and also hed pairisched fyve fattis to him. Quhilk bill being red the said Janet examinat refusit the haill heids of the bill wherwpone the persewir tuik to prove the samen again Fredday nixt be witnessis quha ar ordenit to be warnit to that effect.

24th September.—This day Janet Nicoll confessit Androw Wanes said to hir fra the tyme that Elspet Cuming flet with him he hed nevir his helthe also quhov soyne the said Elspet zeid out of his workhous wher they war flyting his fatt left working as also that fyve fattis parisheit to him; therefter heir wpone the said Androw being tryit wpone the said Janetis confessioun approvit the samen and said his fatt left working quhov soyne the said Elspet Cuming past out of his workhous dor and lykwayis constantly avowit fyve fattis parished to him immediatly therefter. Mairover Janet Nicoll confessit scho hard Androw Waynes say gif he knev that Elspet Cuming hed witched him he suld cum to hir avin hous and burne her in her avin fyr, althoch he suld be stikkat ther, quhilk words the said Androw confessit he spak but nocht as they war libellet in the bill. The Sessioun ordenis Androw Wanes and Elspet Cuming to desist from all outragious speitches ather privatlie or publictly importing sklander or malice ather befor the sessioun or wtherwayis elswher that they offend nocht wtheris wnder the pain of ane hundrethe pundis and to sett caution heirvpone.

24th September.—Two witnesses depone

that Androw Waynes said he wytit Elspet Cuming of his disseis and his fattis gangang bak. Elspet Cuming gaif in ane bill of complaint upone the dochter of Janet Nicoll for saying Elspet Cuming hes bein at the bischop complayning and the bischop said to hir again Elspet gang your way hame again. Ze ar in our buiks els. Janet Nicoll's dochter accusit Elspet Gibson for speiking the words but Elspet Gibson denied.

1st October. — Ordeins the bell to go throch the toun declaring this nixt Saboth to be ane day of thankisgiving.

Item the thretteint day of October.—Robert Keyth furnisit ane candill to the reader to reid the prayeris.

2nd November.—Cristane Guthrie had a fixed stool before the pulpit. When she stooped down Agnes Grant struck her and burled her to the ground because Christen would not let her sit on the seat. Johne Geddes, Patrik Pettindreiche and William Milne, merchantis being troublit on the sea quhov soyne God relevit them they gave to the puir V lib.

12th November.—The elderis pertis nominat:—At the sowth east—Mr James Gardyne's peice from the east port to Patrik Pedderis hous &c. Sowth west—William Innes to the port &c. North east—James Petrie from the fut of the wynd to Mr James Gardyne's hous. Johne Geddes to the Guiter Stain &c. The College—Johne Leslie and William Terras. The elderis to try ther peices and tak up dilatioun of faltaris again Tuysday.

16th November.—The bischop and elderis grantis ane seat to be biggit to the magistratis.

3rd December.—Tuysday, Weddinsday and Thursday apoyntit for catechising the people ilk weik.

14th.—December.—The Sessi n comptis with William Mortimer, glass wricht, for upholding of the kirk windows.

19th December.—Admonitioun gevin to the

people from the pulpeit to deshant the Chanonry Kirk and kirkzeard nather to ws ony pastemes thairin during the superstitious dayis and that according to the actis maid thereanent of befor. It is apoyntit that ilk persoun within the toun that sall cum in the kirk efter the secund bell sall pay xld. and sick as hes no si ner to be wardit xxiiij hours on the weik day gif they cum in at the third bell sufficient. It is appoyntit that saxtein honest nichtbouris within the toun, out of ilk quarter four, be chairgit to cum befor the session and gif ther aithes that they sall declair what they knave concerning witchcraft upone Elspet Cuming. Upon ane inquisition of Elspet Cuming's lyff and conversation they as also the haill elderis of the session hes giffin ther aiths they knav no thing bot guid of the said Elspet.

Her case was brought before the Presbytery, and thereafter the Session ordained Andrew Wanes to stand in his seat and purge her of all witchcraft.

24th December.—The session grantis to the scolleris libertie to play according to the zeirlie cnstome from Thursday to Setterday cum aucht days and gif they keipt guid ordour during that tyme as the maister sall injoyne them ordenis them gif in ane wther bill and ther sall be grantit to them wther aucht dayis.

31st December.—This day Elspet Cuming deponit scho nevir witchit directly or indirectly nather was art nor pairt of his disseas and skaith he gat nather did him evill be ony sort of sorserie or witchcraft.

1614.

11th February.—The bell to adverteis the toun to desist from labour Setterday next befor the Communion. Ordeins fourtein candell to be given to the kirk in the morning.

Payit be Helen Hay £0s. to James Young for gangand out of the kirk befor the blissing eftir scho had communicat.

22nd February.—Ordeins that nan cum within the Session hous at the contracting bot tua or thrie nichtbouris with the parteis contractis and cautioneris. [All marriage contracts are entered in the register at this time].

8th March.—To intimy to the people from the pulpeit that nan reseit na benesit persoun wnder the pain of xl lib.

20th March.—The visitors delate Gillanders stealling pettis and James Kay and William Issone absents from the kirk. Ordeins Gillanderis to be wardit quhill evin, William Issone to pay 6s 8 l and James Kay to ward quhill evin or pay xld.

15th Apryll.—It is ordenit that nan of this parosh communicat in ane uther parosh kirk withont licence grantit and givin, wnder the pain of x lib.

3rd June —William Wilsoune, zounger, wardit for playing on a trumpet on the Saboth day and causing lasses to dance, siclyk the said William hes of his avin will becum willingly acted neuir to ws profane fassiounes nor na ladrie. *hinc inde* wnder the pain of baneshment.

27th June — *Cutberd banesit.* Ordeins Janet Cutberd presently to remowe hir selff af the toun as ane banesit persoune for hir obstinacie and nevir to cum within this toun nor bounds therof nather to byd within the bounds of the bishoprick of Murray wnder the pain of burning hir on the cheik and gif ony persone within this toun receave her they sal pay xl lib., and that nan pretend ignorance heirof the bell and the swasche sall declair the samen publictly throche the toun.

2 th July.—Comperit Janet Cutberd, ane banesit persone, being deprehendit in the toun was requerit quhy scho break the tounes acts be hir contemptuons behaviour in putting her selff oppinly to the calsey wpone ane publict

mercat day, ansuerit scho nather did eat nor drink within the toun nather was ludgit in the toun. She gave her aith and promeis nevir to returne and the Sessionn be publict straick of the drum and handbell dimisit her.

5th August.—Alexander Milne, notar, ordeined to pay xl. s. for failing to prove his bill viz. that Cristane Warden hed maid ane promeis of mariage to him.

7th August.—The Session ordeins the haill parosh to big ther pairt of the kirkzeard dyk.

19th August.—It is ordenit that ilk Saboth day be keipit as dayis of fasting and humiliation contenowally till the cornes be reapit becaus of the appearance of evill wether and this to be intimat to the people from the pulpeit.

21st August.—It is apoyntit and ordenit the first grie [step] of the east loft be left woid and redd to the wisitouris and wtheris honest persones or straingeris and to the collectouris at the dores.

28th August.—This day intimatioun maid to the people from the pulpeit that nan sat in the first grie of the east loft except provest, bailzeis, persones of counsall, wisitouris, and collectouris.

23rd August. — William Crichtoun and Johne Banerman, browsteris, tennentis to the laird of Mayne to find caution that nan of them sell meat nor drink nor ws tavernes the tyme of preitching or prayer on the Sabothe day, nather resett wther mens seruandis at wnlawfull tymes under the pan of fyve pundis.

30th August.—*Sleiparis.* It is ordenit that all they quha wses or beis found sleiping in the kirk the tymes of preitching be sumondit befor the Sessioun immediatly therefter and punished therfor according to the will and censur of the Session.

Collections in September: 4th, 13s 4d; 11th, 22s; 18th, 22s; 25th, 25s. The Session held twelve meetings in September of which the bishop was present at five.

11th October.—Helen Hay. spous to James Donaldsonn, comperit befor the Sessioun, and is requerit to refrain from sleiping the tyme of preitching wnder the pain of the censuris of the Session and elderis.

16th October.—Robert Keyth is ordenit to gif ane candill to the reader fra this nicht fourth beginning the xvii. day of October instant.

11th November.—To summond the baksters again Tuysday next for raising the steanes of the graves to build ther oynes [ovens]. Intimation from the pulpeit that Sonday cum ancht dayis be ane day of thanksg ving, siclyk Weddinsday, Thursday and Friday nichtis apoyntit for catechising fra this furth. Siclyk ordeins ane candill to be givin to the hers this nicht and fra this furth, and the nichtis of catechising four candill.

15th November.—Ordeins the officeris to poynd precisly efter the seennd bell ilk Tuysday quhom ever they fand out of the kirk wnder the pain of banishment. Robert Forbes and Thomas Davidsone, merchantis, tuik on ther packis on ther bakis on the Saboth day and travelit to ane mercat, and therfor ar ordenit to pay ilk ane xld. and gif they commit the lyk again willingly they have acted therselffis nevir to do the lyk wnder the pain of xxs. *toties quoties.*

18th November.—Ordeins the bell to go throch the toun declaring to the people that this nixt Saboth is ane day of thanksgiving.

6th December.—To mak intimationn from the pulpitt on Sonday nixt that nan frequent the Chanonrie Kirkzeard.

9th December.—Margrat Thomsone wardit for absens from the Kirk.

11th December.—This day inhibitioun put to the people that nan frequent the Chanonrie Kirk during thir superstitious dayis in pas teim till the first of Februarie.

16th December.—Nomination of elders—four to each of the four districts—S.E.,

S.W., N.W., N.E.—one of each four being a bailie or the provost. Also three elders for the college. Also elders for Pluscarden, Quhytfield, &c. Four deacons also appointed.

27th December.—Comperit Magdalen Gray, ane guyser. Dilatit Hew Kay, James Calderis man, and ane scoller playing on ane trump.

30th December.—Comperit Elspet Dempster suspected of guysing, committit to ward quhill scho set caution to compeir on Tuysday. Hew Kay also wardit. Katrine Hosak to compeir on Tuysday next for guyssing.

3RD JANUARY.—Comperit Hew Kay and Maitland Gray delatit ane scoller of James Calder to have playit with ane trumpt. Comperit Thomas Urrall confessit he playit on the trumpt to the gwysars and that Hew Kay was with them and careit ane cott stoppit with strcy wpone ane staff and dancit in Johne Bonymanis hous and Hew Kay confessit the samen and that Magdalen Gray was with them and therfor comittit to ward. Comperit Elspet Dempster and delatit William Moreis woman, Walter Smyth woman, Alexr Bonyman's woman quha passt all to Thomas Hardeis hous and dancit ther with ane lad quha playit wpone ane swasche ther, contenouis till Freday to forder tryell. Siclyk comperit Cristane Sanderis (?) and confessit scho dancit in Thomas Hardeyis hous and that scho was in John Innes hous and in William Moreis hous and that Dempster dansit with ane bonat on hir heid in Thomas Hardeis hous and that ane Andersones playit on ane swasche and that Maige Elchuner dancit with Androw Stolkeris hatt on hir heid. Comperit the said Maige Elchuner and confessit scho was dansing with ane hatt and that Alexr. Bonyman's woman dansit with ane bonat.

6th January.—Ordeins Katrein Hosak and Elspet Dempster danseris committit to ward quhill they pay 6s 8d ilk ane and to act them

selffis nevir to do the lyk. Robert Keyth receavit from Thomas Urrall 1 merk, from Hew Kay 6s. 8d. from Katrein Hosak 6s. 8d. and ordeins the rest of the lasses to be wairdit quhill they pay ilk ane half ane merk.

20th January.—To mak intimatioun to the landward that they cum in to examinatioun as they salbe warnit ilk Thursday and Friday.

7th February.—To intime from the pulpeit that they quha are warnit to the examination cum in the ane half on Thursday and the wther half on Freday and that of evrie particular hous and the cheif honest men, masteris of families, cum in as they salbe warnit.

28th February.—To intime from the pulpeit that it is ordenit that Sonday the 26th day of Merche salbe the first day of Communion for the toun and the Saboth preceding ane day of fast and the secnnd of Apryll for the landward and the haill weik betuix the dayis of Communion preitching dayis

17th March.—Ordeins James Alves to ward quhill he pay xld. for byding from the kirk. Ordeins to adverteis the people to cum in to the examinatiounes the next weik Weddinsday, Thursday and Fredday preceisly becaus of the Communion and the toun to receave their tikatis at four hours Tuysday Weddinsday Thursday and Friday preceisly at the bell.

19th March.—The Sessioun thinkis guid that the preitchingis on the weik dayis begin at ten houris.

23rd March.—Ordeins the drum to pas befor the bellis ring on Sonday siclyk that the bell pas the morn to adwerteis the toun that the seruandis cum to the morning service and that nayne be on service fra xii houris furth bot desist from labouris.

2nd April.—Ordeins evrie elder to wiseit ther pieces again Tuysday to sic quha hes nocht communicated.

7th April. — Maige Cowy and Elspet

Brovnie have acted them selffis never to offend wtheris be flyting and skalding heirefter, wnder the pain of jogging them and baneshment heirefter. Mr James Gardyne having sichtit his peice dilatit tua seik folkis on communicat siz. Thomas Milne and Emilie Swane. Margaret Dauidsone eftir quhan scho sa the new moyne scho ran thrys widdersones about [contrary to the course of the sun] & c Androw Eakinheid wyttis hir and suspects hir of his skaith and helthe as also that his cat and his dog ran wood [wud, mad] and heirfor desyris the minister and elders of Banff to tak her aith that scho nather did nor sall do him ony wrang be witchcraft nor sorcery *hinc inde.*

9th April.—James Rutherfuird [provost of Elgin] visitor, gave up his avin wyf [as a non-communicant]

11th April.—The Session ordenis Johne Corsar and his wyff to stand at the stuill with ane paper on ther heids for sklandering Androw Martein and heirfoir ordeins him to be wardit quhill he sett cautioun for fulfilling the acts as also that he stand in the stoks for abusing the magistratis and to confess his falt publictly befor the congregation and also that they actit ther selffis nevir to do the lyk *hinc inde* wnder the pain of baneshment.

18th April.—Janet Jameson gaif her aithe that scho nevir offendit Thomas Hay, pyper, directly nor indirectly be witchcraft or sorcery or ony indirect means nather sall do *hinc inde.*

21st April.—Ordeins the officiaris to pas throch the Auld Milnes and tak wp the names of non-communicants and falters.

2nd May.—William Yssone's wyff absent fra the Tuysdayis preitching, ordenit to pay xld. and to pay 6s 8d. gif sche be found absent again.

[Many baptismal entries occur at this part of the Register].

23rd May.—James Innes, wisitour, drink-

ing on the Saboth day, ordenit to pay tua merks to William Milne, coll ctor, and ordenit to ward quhill he pay it.

13th June.—To luik out the actis and to publische the samen from the pulpeit anent sic as gangis to Spynie and the wood on the Sabothe.

16th June —Ordeins the officeris to be wardit till Mounday at x i houris for ther negligence and therefter that they warne the absentis from the Tuysdayis preitching again the next Tuysday. James Cowy delatit sic as kept nocht the kirk siz Elchiner Rag, Heland Johne Sutherland [and four others] and all their wyves and three browsteris.

20th June —Elspet Hay in the Hauche willinglie actit hir selff not to sell drink the tyme of preitching on the Saboth day wnder the pain of xl libs

9th July.—Ordeins James Kinnerd to be warnit again Tuysday for raising and avay taking the stanes of the Chanonrie kirk zeard to big his pairt of this kirk dyk.

5th September.—Ordeins Helen Hay and Margarat Kinnerd to pay 6s. ilk ane for sleiping and to pay the dowble therof gif they committ the lyk again in the kirk.

19th September —Alexander Sinclair committit to ward for working and setting up corne and stowkis on the Saboth day.

9th October.—The officiaris to adverteis the elders to pas throch their quarters and adverteis the haill people of the toun that nan hant nor frequent Helen Ogilvie, Ladie Balnadalloche during her excommunication wnder the pain of xl. lib.

[Fourteen elders elected for the four quarters of the burgh and two for the college, also four deacons. The elders included Alexander Pringill, provost, and the three bailies—James Thomson, Mr James Gardin and Mr George Annand. The landward elders were as follow: "William

Innes for Blackhills, Jhone Man for Thornehill, Grein heid and Glakmarres, David Watt for Langmorne and Quhytwreayis, William Douglas of Erlsmilne for Boigsyd, Alexander Russell for Hauche, Over and Nather Manbeines, Hew Sutherland for Pettindreiche, Diviligrein and Broynehillis (?), Hew Falconer for Litill Inverlochtie, Quhytfeild, Mayne and Eakinheid, Mr Gavin Douglas and James Colly for Mostowy, Thomas Hephburne and Thomas Gordoun for Meikle Inverlochtie, William Farquharsone for Kelles. For Pluskarden :—Robert Dunbar, Elchiner Dumbar, and Martein Petrie." The elders were elected annually, a few changes being generally made at every election].

Chanonrie Kirk.—It is ordenit and statute that nane within this congregatioun hant the Chanonrie kirk to ther prayeris seing the prayeris are daylie red in this kirk wher the trew word is preitched and the sacramentis celebrat, and therfor that ilk ane keip the publict meittingis the tyme of preitching and prayeris and nocht to go to their avin privat prayeris in the Chanonrie Kirk wnder the pain of xl s. toties quoties they transgress this act and this to be publisched from the pulpeit.

5th November.—Ordeins ane candill to the hers from this day furthe.

7th November.—Inhibition put to William Lesly nocht to hant with the Ladie Balnadalloch without leive.

10th November.—This day the elderis war nominat and to be publisched on Sonday nixt and chairgit to be heir again Tuysday next.

12th November.—My Lord Bischop hes dischairgit all leiwe and licence to confer with the Ladie Balnodalloche and that it sall nocht be leissoum to ony persoun confer, hant nor frequent hir nor hir hous wnder the pain of the actis siz. fourtie pundis *toties quoties.*

18th November.—Ordeins James Kay to

correct his sone for breaking of the provost's yeard and the said James is cautioun that his son break no zeard *hinc inde* under the pain of fyve poundis.

27th November. — Licence grantit to William Clark to repair to the guidman of Balnadalloche's hous to do his turnes for the space of xxiiij hours. That everie ane viseit ther peices and admonische the people that they abstein from banning. Ordeins Mr David with sum uther to pas on the mercat day to beg for William Lesly.

1st December.—William Rob in Birney and Margaret Auld in the Colledge presentit them selffis befor the Sessioun and ratefeit ane promeis of mariage to be performit quhov soyne ther bands beis proclamit. They find cautioun that they haive the commands, beleif and Lord's prayer wnder the pains contenit in the actis.

5th December.—James Stewart acted him selff willingly nocht to resett wther men's serwands fra sax houris at evin nather sell meat nor drink fra ten houris at evin wnder the pain of V lib.

19th December.—Ane bill givin in be the bairnes of the scooll requering libertie to play quhilk is grantit them according to the actis and this to be schawin to the Mr. again Freday.

1616.

16th February.—This day admonition givin to Cristan Roy that scho ludge no stranger nor uncowth beggeris wnder the pain of extruding hir and hir housband out of the townes houss quhairin they dwell. Isobell King in the lyk maner inhibeit to receave uncowth beggeris wnder the pain of baneshment.

[The Communion was held once a year].

17th May.—Jhone Innes, merchant, Alexander Wilsone and Hew Kay for waging to Spynie on the Saboth day the tyme of preitch-

ing are committit to ward quhill they pay ther penalteis according to the act maid thairanent. Payit xl. s. ilk ane.

21st May —Marioun Murray and Merjorie Gordoun for heiting the oyne on the Sabaoth day and beaking therin payis 5s ilk ane. James Dunbar, tailzeour, acted him selff nocht to be found drinking on the nicht wnder the pain of xls. That the officiars gett no siluer from sic wardours as ar committit to ward for ane day except they be ordenit to stand xxiiij houris thay to pay xvid. and sic as wards xlviii houris to pay xxxijd.

28th May.—Alexr. Gauld and Francis Steill acted them selffis not to be found drinking efter nyne houris at evin wnder the pain of xls. ilk ane of them. William Greig acted him selff to report ane testimoniall from the toun of Brechein within fyve weikis.

13th June.—James Murray, skinner, wardit for dinging his mother and acted him selff not to do the lyk *hinc inde* wnder the pain of x lib.

25th June.—William Cok acted him selff willingly not to mak ony graves in the Chanrie Kirk nor kirkzeard wnder the pain of xxs. without leawe askit and givin.

2nd July.—Alexander Boynd, merchant. to pay ane merk for passing to the mercat the tyme of efter noyne sermone on the Saboth day.

5th July.—Ordeins the officers to dilat thais of the honester rank in ther particular quarteris that ar absent from the preitching ilk Tuysday and that cairfully and honestly and to contenew in performing ther pairtis diligently ingaddering the people to the kirk and preitching the saids Tuysdayis, ilk officer negligent and breaking this act wnder the pain of vis. viiid. Johne Robertsone for going to Forres the tyme of preitching on the Sabath day payit ane merk and for the lyk falt Alex. Lay 5s., Alexander Dauidson ane merk and Thomas Fraser ane merk.

26th July.—James Stronoche and Isobell Tawse his spous haue acted themselffs that nane of them be found drinking, flyting or stricking wtheris under the painof v lib. *toties quoties* they offend and standing in the joiggis at the will of the session.

11th August.—Ordenis William Milne to gif xxs to ane c epell man ane stranger callit William Ramsay.

18th August.—Apoyntis Sonday nixt to be ane day of publict fast and that to be published on Tuysday next from the pulpeit according to our anniversarie custome befor hervest.

27th August.—To poynd Thomas Corsar for dissobedience, being summoned and wald nocht compeir for grinding on the Sabothe day with his milne. Ordenis the haill milnwardis to he summoned again Freday next

30th August.—Comperit Johne Chalmer of Overlinkwood and gaif his aith his milne grand none on the Saboth day since the last tyme he acted him selff.

1st September.—Comperit Johne Gill and Johne Navchtie and deponit the Auld Milnes grand nan on the Sabath day since the last tyme they war acted. Comperit Elchoner Nicoll and confessit the Bischop Milne grand on the Sabathe day at ix. houris at evin and therfor convict of ten merkis penaltie according to the act is wherbe he was obleshed in the contrar. Siclyk James Milne at the Walk milne confessit the lyk and therfor convict of the samen penaltie according to the act. Walter Smyth, flescher, for slaying muttoun on the Saboth day at evin befor v. houris publictly on the calsay payit ane merk and acted him selff nocht to do the lyk again wnder the pain of x. merkis on the Saboth day. Comperit George Kay and compleanit wpone James Hardie that he hed abused him and persevit him bezound Spey with ane suord and tuyk him be the throt and raif his overlay and wald have forder iniured him gif nicht-

bouris and honest men hed nocht red them and gaif his aith heirvpoun quhilk the said James Hardie refused and becaus ther war nocht witnesses present for the tyme the said James Hardie is ordenit presently to remov him selff over Spey again till forder tryell and his better behaviour in tyme to cum. James Mursone, miller, deponit the Milne of Inverlochtie grand nane wpone the Saboth day from midnicht to midnicht according to the act.

17th September.—Alexander Robertsone, milnewart at Shereffmilne hes acted him selff of his avin frie will that the said milne sall nocht be found grinding nor laboring on the Sabbth day, siz. from midnicht on Setterday to midnicht on Sonday at evin under the pain of ten merkis.

27th September.—Elchiner Hay, milnvard in Boigsyd acted him selff willinglie that the milne of Boigsyd grind nocht on the Saboth day. He gaif his aith that scho grand nane befor on the Saboth day except ane day quhilk is found ane transgression of the former act and therfor is convicted of the penaltie.

29th September.—Ordeins Androw Annand to gif xs. to burie ane puir man.

4th October.—Ordeins Margaret Grame to remove hir selff from this toun and paroshe and nocht to cum back. Ordeins the drum to pass throch the toun declairing Sonday next to be ane day of thanksgiving.

13th October.—To remember to speak of ane candell on Tuysday next.

15th October.—This day ane candill ordenit to be given to the redder.

18th October.—Comperit Effie Fumester and being accused quhy scho counselit Agnes Fumester to cast in strang in the fyr to the effect scho micht get hir hartis desyr of ane wther cottar of James Thomsones quhilk scho denyis and the said James tuik to prove the samen.

25th October.—Hugo Manro hes tain upoun

him to remove the begeris from the calsey and kirk dor on the Saboth dayis.

5th November.—This day the provest and bailleis of Elgen be thir presentis of ther avin frie will have acted them selffis to redelyver the dask quhilk they borrowit out of the queir within ane monethe.

8th November.—Ane candill to the hers for this day. Ordeins admonition to be given to the people on Sonday that the catechising salbe on Thursday and Freday next and so to contenoy therefter quhill winter pas.

10th December.—Ordeins inhibitioun to be put to the people that they frequent nocht the Chanonrie kirk nor kirkzeard. John Innes, yr., merchant burges of Elgen hes becom cautioun for his brother Robert to satisfie the censuris of the kirk as ane reput and haldin airt and pairt of the slauchter of umqull Agnes Lesly and William Hay, brother to the laird of Mayne, as also for giving publict skandell in reparing publickly to sermones and prayeris within the kirk and uther publick places, being excommunicat and unrelaxat.

29th December.—Licence given to Robert Innes, merchant burges, to do his lawful busines throch the toun for 20 days on his application to the Session.

[16 baptisms recorded during 1616].

1617.

11th January.—Robert Innes to be relieved from excommunication.

14th January.—Ordeins the elderis to searche ther peices and sie quhat honest men hes psalme buikis.

17th January.—The provest [and six others] have submitted them selffis to the woice of the session becaus they have commoned and conferred or at least saluted and spokin with Robert Innes, being excommunicat.

24th January.—Marjorie Wyot hes deponit hir greit aith that scho is nather airt nor pairt of Marjorie Innes seiknes.

9th March.—Xs. giffin to ane schipbrokin man.

4th April.—That the bell go throch the toun the morn inhibiting all meatis to be maid reddie [being the fast on the Sunday before the Communion. Communion on 13th and 27th April].

12th April.—vi s. to ane puir bairne to burie him.

9th May.—Thomas Duff, Elchiner Tailzour have acted them selffis to caus ther bairnes absten from playing in the Chaurie Kirk zeard *hinc inde* wnder the pain of xx s. ilk ane of them.

18th May.—Collected be Mr Gavin Donglas iiij merks to the commoun work.

20th May.—James Murisone wardit for contempt of the magistratis and ther to abyd quhill Sonday accept he releiv him self be payment of xl s. George Cuming, payit xl s. as cautioner for James Murisone that he play not at the chow on the Saboth day wnder the pain of xl s.

23d May.—Isobell Warden being requerit quhy scho was from the kirk alledgit scho was in Petgavinie bot confessit hir husband was drinking in the tyme of preitching on Tuysday, for the quhilk he was ordanit to pay iiijs. and the said Isobell ansnerit "The d —l ane penny sall my housband pay," for the quhilk speitches the said Isobell was chargit to ward bot manifestly refused and past avay hame.

30th May.—Isabell Warden ordenit to pay ane merk for contemptuous speitches, and acted hir selff nocht to contempne or commit ony fault aganes the Session or ony elder directly *hinc inde* vnder the pain of x. merkis.

Surnames at this time: Purse, Nauchtie, Kaynzeoche (Jasper), Hay, &c.

13th June.—Androw Hosak acted him selff gif he be in the toun on Tuysdayis the tyme of ringing of the first bell and pass from the

toun in absenting him selff from the preitching in that caice he sall pay xls.

4th July.—Thomas Hardie is admonished to keept the Tuysdayis preitching with certification gif he beis found absent bot ony just occasioun he salbe censurit and put wnder actis in streater forme.

1st August.—That Tuysday nixt is the Kingis day of delyuerie in Perth and therfor that the people cum to the preitchingis.

21 August.—That the next Saboth be observit as ane day of publict fast.

8th August.—That the bell pas throch the toun and signifie the fast. Nicolas Dunbar and George Sutherland visitouris at the vest, William Lesly and Johne Innes at the east.

12th August.—That intimation be maid to the parosche that they grant supliment to ane callit —— Mortoun (?) for the help of sum quha ar detenit captives [to the Turks], and also that the bischop read the Kingis letter in that matter. *Seatts*—Ordeins that all the seatis in the kirk be draun in and nocht to imped the entress to the kirk flowir for deskis, nather that they pas the boundis of daskis.

[Collections in September: 7th, 24s; 14th, 25s; 21st, 22s; 28th, 20s.]

6th September.—It is ordenit that the officeris go thr ch the toun and schav the people that this Saboth and the remanent Saboths be keepit as dayis of fasting during the harvest.

[Two visitors for the east and two for the west are appointed every Sunday.]

10th October.—To adverteis the people that Twysday nixt is the Synod, and therfor that they all frequent the preitching that day, and this to be published on Sonday nixt.

17th October.—This day Robert Keyth ordenit to gif the redar ane candill to red the prayeris.

28th October.—Janet Farquharson gaif hir

aith that scho did Kartell Kelly no wrang be witchcraft nor sorcery nather sall do heirefter.

4 h November.—Ordenis the magistratis to be wisitouris the morne the fyft of November ane day apoynted to haly preitchinge and obseruatioun for the kingis delyverie of the pudder blast at England [Gunpowder Plot].

14th November.—This day Robert Keyth is appoynted to put ane candell to the hers and ilk nicht contenow fra this furthe.

18th November.—Ordenis Agnes Wat to be brint on the face and banesit the toun and parasche *in eternum*

21st November.—Ordeins the absentis from the Tuysdayis sermone to be wardit quhill evin or redeam them selffis be payment of xld.

8th October.—This day Mr David Philp in his favor ane edict proclamit that he was acceptit minister at Elgen.

19th December.—Elchiner Tailzour cautioun for James Jhonston and he for him that nane of them hant the Chanerie Kirk, lykwayis Margrat Jhonstoun and Androw Davidsonn acted them selffis nocht to hant the kirk or prayeris privatly or publicly wnder the pain of xls.

23rd December.—Androw Law and Margarat Spens have acted themselffis nocht to hant the Chanonrie kirk to privat or publict prayeris wnder the pain of xxs. Grantis licence to the scolleris and libertie to play from ancht dayis to ancht dayis wpone ther behaviour kepand ther avin prayeris in the scooll and kepand guid ordour *hinc inde* wtherwayes to be dischairgit.

30th December.—David Wat, Johne Maine, Alexander Gad erer in Manbeins have consentit to the admission of Mr David Philp.

1618.

4th January.—Hew Falconer, Thomas Hephburne consentit to the admission of Mr David Philp to be minister of Elgen.

8th February.—Robert Keyth gaif bot ane candill to the hers.

15th February.—Fra this nicht na candell.

3rd March.—The plewchis of the parosche as they ar nominat for taxing the parosch-ineris to furneis necessaris to the communion; Pluscarden nominat to saxtein pl., Easter Kellas tua pl.. Boigsyd ii pl., Lytill Inverlochtie ii pl., Quhytfeild ij pl., Mekle Inverlochtie 4 plew. Pettindriche with the mill 3 plew. Diviligrein 1 (?) pl., Nather Manbeanes over and Hauche 2 ple., Mayne and Fakinheid 3 pl., Lewines hauche 1 pl., Lang morne 2 pl., Glakmarres tua plewis Wester Quhyt wreayis 1 pl., Easter Quhytwreayis 2 pl., Thornhill 2 pl., Blakhillis 2 pl., Mostowye 2 pl. Summa of the hail plewchis of the haill parosche with Pluskarden fyftie plewis.

10th March.—Delyverit to William Gadderer ij merks for casting taikynis to the communion, quhilk was gottin from James Scot.

13th March.—To admonish the people on Sonday next that the Sonday befor Pasche day sall be ane day of publict fast and the Sabothe therefter the celebration of the Communion.

20th March.—That nane presume to communicat bezound ther Parosche kirk, bot all obserue ther avin dayis and ther avin kirk.

24th March.—Androw Wanes, scitat to kept the kirk, confessit his falt and promesit to mend.

4th April.—Helen Lesly posit quhow scho come bairfuttit on ane superstitious day callit Guid Fredday deponit scho did it for obseruing of ane aith siz. becaus scho buir ane dead bairne sic ane day to sweir to gang bair futtit quhill scho levit that day. Ordenit to reteir hirselff till Tuysday next, as also Christane Gall confessit hir falt and ordenit to be re-examinat on Tuysday. Siclyk Marioie Wat, spous to Thomas Milne. Margarat Tailzour deponit scho wanted hois and schoyne.

14th April.—James Kinnerd having communicat this last Sabothe past hame and abaid not the sermone efter noyne for the quhilk he is reprehendit and efter long lessoningis he promesit faithfully to mend that falt and to keept the kirk and preitchingis heirefter.

25th Aprill.—Maige Dun wardit for dinging hir mother and therefter to act hir selff to do the lyk. Agnes Robertsone for banning of hir mother ordenit to be put in the joggis.

25th May.—The stent masteris all have agreit that thrie hundreth merkis be collected amongs them betnix the toun and landward to furneis weschellis with conditioun gif that soum be nocht sufficient they all agrie to be stentit again wniversally. The quhilk day lykwayis the bischop proponit that quhill the queir sall be repairit the weschellis to serne the samen aucht to be furnisched quhilk they agrie to and the toun acceptis to be stentit with the landward and tak burden to ther power as they do with the toun to this kirk.

29th May.—Doctor Aparisiis his bill remitted to probatioun again Tuysday.

2d June.—The Sessioun admittis William Petrie, deaff and dumb, to be insert in the puir folkis roll.

9th June.—The Session ordenis Robert Keyth, officiar, to sit on his kneis and ask God and the doctor mercie for sklandering him in calling him hen pyker.

9th July.—Collected to big the porche dor: from Alexander Milne in Dundee, £3 6s 8d; collected be the tass [cup], £3 8s; from Adam Duff, 6s; &c. summa £36 3s 10d, togidder with £30 from the Session.

It is statut and ordenit that nane within this toun or parosche hant the Chanonrie Kirk at ther priwat prayeris, certefeing the transgresseris of this Act that quhowsoever they be found at ther prayeris ther they sall pay xls. Sc. money, and sic as are no soluend sall be punished be warding and repentance,

and that to be procleamed from the pulpeit that nan pretend ignorance.

28th July. — Ordeins William Milne, thesaurer, to gif tua merkis to John Miller, ane hareit [robbed] man. [A merk was 13s 4d Scots, or 13⅓d Stg.]

21st August.—It is ordenit *de novo* that sic parties as giffis in bills of sklander aganes wtheris sic as provis nocht ther bill sall pay xls.

28th August.—Ordeins the thesaurer to gif four merks to Alexander Gadderer to help him on his jorney towards the south to meit with his sone.

30th August.—Dilatit James Gordoun and Katrein Cuming to be togidder during the tyme of the efternoynes preitching.

4th September.—Comperit Katrein Cumming, being summondit quha being accused for wnlawfully companeing with James Gordoun, the said Katrein enterit in skalding, crying out with cursingis and execratiounis aganes the elderis that accusit hir, quherupone scho was commandit to ward, quha contemptuously disobeyit and past hame.

9th September. — The Sessioun ordeins William Milne to gif the sklaiter on his seik bed quha being at the poynt of death the sonm of xls.

17th September.—Comperit Katrein Cumming being summondit quha in hir skalding called Alexander Innes, ane of the elderis, Judas, and said scho wald affirme it gif scho suld suffer death therfor. James Gordoun alledgit he com to the toun to meit with Corridoun Sonday last, and becaus the searcharis war cuming doun the toun, that they suld not find him, past in at Katrein's dor and closit it efter him.

18th September.—This day the haill elderis in a woice have wotit that Katrein Cumming remowe her selff within aucht dayis immediately following from this toun and parosche willinglie and quyatly, wtherwayis scho sall be publictly put aff this toun and parosche

conforme to the commoun ordour with publict signes of drum and bell as use is.

20th September.—Jhone Robertsone summondit the secund tyme comperit and being requerit be my lord bischop, moderator off the Sessioun, quhy the said Johne comperit nocht on Sonday last to gif declaratioun of his diligence, being ane wisitour the said day, as also being summondit to Twysday nixt therefter and comperit nocht, the said Johne ansuerit, My lord bishop, becaus ye com wpone me and abussed me, to the quhilk my lord bischop ansuerit and desyrit the said Johne to qualifie his words, the said Johne ansuerit that my lord bischop said he wald newir gif him ane good day, quhilk wordis my lord bischop refused and declared (on his conscience) he said only thir words, Jhone this is zow, as ze did to me. Therefter the said Johne said contemptuously that he held nothing of the bischop for the quhilk contemptuous and wniust [unjust] speitches my lord bischop protestit in respect the said Johne culd not qualifie his said speitches and hed reprotched my lord bischop so publictly that he suld be censurit be the sessioun or presbitrie or wtherwayis be the hie commissioun.

9th October.—Comperit Jhone Robertsone being summondit quha confessit he hed offendit my lord bischop and offerit to amend as my lord or the sessioune pleased to injoyne him. The quhilk day the session deferris Jhone Robertsone's mends and satisfactioun to be decydit be ane mair full sessioun.

20th October.—The elderis vote that Johne Robertson suld mak his publict repentance and ward so lang as my lord bishop pleasit.

25th October.—Ordeins Robert Keythe to gif ane candill to the reedar fra this furthe. The magistratis ar apoynted wisitouris on Tuysday nixt becaus of the Synod Assembly. Johne Symsone, in the hauch of Dippell, this day in sackclaithe for offending his pastor and contemning the woice of the kirk.

1st November.—This day Johne Robertsone, merchant, maid his repentance on the stooll for offending my lord bishop be opprobrious speitches. Siclyk Mr Dauid Philp from the pulpeit maid publict intimatioun and admonitioun to the haill congregation according to ane act of the Synod assemblie that na persoun iniure offend nor calumniat ony minister privatly nor publictly in his face nor behind his bak, ather raling on him or reprotching him in session or presbiterie, nather in ony wther place wnder the pain of standing in sackclaithe and sic utheris punishmentis as the gravitie of ther fault requeris.

6th November.—The Magistratis grantis ane candill to be put in the hers be Robert Keyth on Mounday nixt and so to contenowe nichtly during this yeer sic nichts as ar nocht appoynted for catechising the people. This day nomination of elderis for this yeer ar heir nominat siz. &c.

20th November. — That na strangeris seruandis be receavit in this toun be ony housholderis without ane testimoniall wnder the pain of x. lib.

18th December.—It is ordenit that the superstitious obseruation of auld rits and ceremoneis expresly forbidden during the tyme callit Yooll that they be altogidder awodit and esehewit, siz. that na persoun within broch or landward within this parosche pas in gwysing, dansing, singing carallis, play at the fut ball, throch the toun, nor about the Chanonrie kirk and kirkzeard, nather wemen to be cled in men's apparrell nor men in wemen's apparrell, casting of snaw ballis, hurling with stoollis on the streitis and finally to awoid all insolencies and superstitious reitis expresly forbidden in the auld acts maid aganes the mantenance the auld ceremoneis and that wnder the pain of dowbling of the penaltie quhilk is fourtie s. for the first falt and warding of ther persones, as the sessione sall apoynt and gif the persoune

transgressour hawe nocht geir to pay they sall be punished in ther bodeis be warding and wtherwayis as the Sessioun sall think good, in exemple of wtheris to comit the lyk.

22nd December.—This day the haill elderis have votit and chosin Mr James Guthrie with Mr William Clogie to decyd betuix the toun and landward in the taxt concerning the weschellis to be bocht and maid for the celebratioun of the sacramentis, &c.

1619.

19th January.—This day my lord bishop requerit the elderis gif they allovat of the actis maid anent the ratefeing of the actis maid anent discharging of dansing and auld reittis wsit at thir festuall dayis callit Yooll, the session all in ane woice agreit that the said actis suld stand firme and stable onviolat for punisching all enormities that sall fall out at sictyme and that in the hichest degrie and thocht that the lasses hed committed ane offense in dansing with ane pyper in Johne Hamiltoune's hous, and gif they committ the lyk to be punised according to the actis.

24th January.—The quhilk day my lord bischop off Murray, moderator of the sessioun of Elgen and haill elderis at the desyr of the Richt honoll. Robert Innes of that ilk hawe grantit and givin full libertie and licence to Alexander Innes of Cottis and Margarat Straquhan, relict of wmquhill Johne Innes, sumtyme of Lewcharis, the seat and dask in the kirk quhilk was assignit be the bischop and elderis to the said richt honoll. the Laird of Innes, quhilk seat the laird of Innes giffis fully ower in thair favouris and to thair ws to sit in according to his letter redd to the sessioun, quhilk the sessioun ratefeis and giffis to them as ther proper seat during ther tyme and recidence within this brucht, wherupone my lord bischop and elderis have ordenit this act to be maid in confirmation of the premissis.

16th February.—This day Mr William Clogie presented ane bill of Mr Gavin Dunbaris concerning the stent for furnisching the kirk weschellis quhilk letter bearis that the toun pay the ane halff equalie with the landward and the said Mr William hes wotit the samen.

9th March.—This day Mr David Philp receavit ane hundredthe pundis from the toun for ther pairt to furneis weschellis to the kirk for celebratting the sacramentis.

1st June.—Jhone Warden being found culpable of notorious and highe sklander in railling at all tymes wpone my lord bischope and ceasses nocht from crying out and abusing his lordship's name and persone acted himselff never to offend again wnder the pain of baneshment from off the toun of Elgen and parosche therof during his lyftyme.

4th June.—James Stewart acted him selff to keept the kirk Tuysday and Saboth day, he being in the toune in helthe wnder the pain of xls. except he have ane sufficient excuiss nather that he be found wagand abont the feilds or in his zeardis the tyme of preitching.

11th June.—George Kay, cordiner, and Janet Lesly, his spouse, have willingly acted themselffis nather to flyt with wtheris nather to skald nor ding or abuse wtheris wnder the pain of v. lib.

22nd June.—Thomas Innes and Alexander Duff acted themselffis nocht to resett ony bodie within ther zeardis during the tyme of preitching wnder the pain of xls. ilk ane.

2nd July.—Androw Annand acted him selff cautioun for Margrat Hamiltoun, servitrix to my Ladie Murray, that scho sall sweir and subscryve to the trew religioun, nov presently professit in Scotland befor hir mareage and also sall communicat quhov soyne occasioun sernes and as scho sall be requerit wnder the pain of tua hundrethe merkis. It is ordenit that na persoune, specially young bairnes or infantis be bureit

befor the prayer bell in the morning as also that the parentis signifie and mak nichtbouris acquantit that the bairne is disseasit befor the bairne die that nichtbouris may bear witness to the departur of the bairne.

30th July.—Ordeins Margarat Tailzeour presently to be banesit for his manafold offences and abusses quha hes nov sindrie tymes bein ordenit to be banesit and quhow soyne scho hearis of the sentence to pas aganes hir immediatly scho steirs the toun till the sessioun forzet hir and cumes again and hes hir abyding and recidence in the toun trubling all hir nichtbouris about hir, and therfor this Setterday to be publictly banesit but any forder hearing as the officeris will be ansuerable wpone the execution of ther office.

21st September.—Mariorie Crichtoun, spous to Alexander Innes, wreattar in Elgen, humblit hir selff on hir kneis and creavit Mariorie Bonyman pardoun for hir offence done to the said Mariorie in sklandering her. Isobell Nisbet and Janet Currour have acted themselffis nocht to flytt nor skald togidder wnder the pain of baneshment.

Collections in September—5th, 21s ; 12th, 20s ; 19th, 25s ; 26th, 18s 6d.

24th September.—Androw Wanes said to Elspet Cuming, spous to James Petrie, that scho was als lyk a witche cairling as he was lyk a grandgorie loun and choppit on his teithe and said thair was lytill good in hir face. He callit hir wagabound and that his mother lent hir meill to baik penny cakis that held hir housband in the countrey and helpit to mak wp the pack again. Elspet Cuming called Androw Wanes grandgorie lipper [grandgore=lues venerea], swonjour that thov art, I sall hawe a mendis of the ather by slicht or be micht.

22nd October.—Grantis Tuysday nixt to Stevart his nutrix to adwys quhidder scho will pay iiij merkis or stand in the joggis on Setterday.

26th October. — James Douglas, Robert Innes, bailleis, and Alexander Pringill, ane of the counsall, as also my lord bischop, with the haill elderis hawe wotit that William Gadderer receave sic pairt of the commoditie of the bell as may serue him for ringing the belles in the kirk the rest to be imployit to the tounes ws and profeit.

31st October.—This day James Gordoun is excommunicat be Mr David Philp, conforme to the ordinance off the Sessioun for his contempt.

2nd November.—James Murisone cautioun for his wyff that scho sall stand at the pillar on Sonday nixt with ane paper on hir heid and confess her falt doyne to Hew Sutherland wnder the pain of x lib.

5th November.—Being the day of the powder blast [the Gunpowder Plot] and cruell conspiracie aganes his Maiestie at Quhythall, the sermoun being endit no sessioun nor convening of elderis.

18th November.—William Innes, merchant, gaif fyve merkis money in name of Alexander Milne, burges of Dundie, quhilk the said Alexander send with him to furneis licht to the mercheantis hers quhilk was presently delywerit to William Gadderar to put sax plak candell in the kirk nichtly so lang as it lestit.

23rd November.—This day was appoynted for nomination of elderis to be elected for this nixt yeer and becaus of the diligence of the elderis presently in office they ar nominat *de novo* to bear office for this nixt succeeding yeer.

7th December.—The elderis convenit this day have all wotit and grantit my lord bischop his dask and seat in the kirk to apertein to his Lordschip and his airis efter him properly in all tyme cuming.

14th December.—Mr George Annand proponit to the sessioun in nam of the provest and bailleis that they micht have full libertie to big ane dask in the kirk to them and ther

successouris wher they micht find it maist commodious, quhilk the haill elderis wery willingly hes grantit. The Erll off Murray, the laird of Duffus and the guidman of Erllsmilne desyring that they may have the laird of Pettindriche his dask to apertein to them ilk ane for his entres the ansuer wherof the sessioun contenews till they adwys with the provost bailleis and counsall.

17th December.—It is ordenit that nan within this brugh or parosche ws or mak publict convocatiounes or dansing nor gwysing nather ony wther insolencie or auld reittis expresly forbidden in the former acts during the tyme of Youll wnder the penalteis contenit therintill.

21st December.—The elderis have wotit that the first day of evrie monethe ilk tounesman gif support to the poor as God sall bliss them and hawe desyred Robert Innes and James Douglas bailleis to requeir the counsall aid heirin.

1620.

7th January.—The Sessioun ordenis Robert Hardie to gif xlviii. s. to Androw Stalker for making of the takins to the poor.

21st January.—Intimatioun maid to the people this day that the actis and decreit's of the Sessioun sall be persevit befor the commissar fra this furthe and his auctoritie to be interponit therto. Hew Falconer, elder, producit ane testimoniall subscryvit be the minister of Aberdour, bearing that Margrat Hamiltoun, now spous to William Falconer, hes sworne and subscryvit to the trew professit religioun. This day the taikins and tounes signe is givin to the tounes poor and they ordenit to wear them publictly on their breistis with certificatioun quha does nocht the samen they salbe depryved of the benefeit and banesit the toun.

4th February.—Elderis nominat to stent the taxatioun for reparing the queir. They find the number of bollis to extend to 22 scoir

bollis and fyftein and sax peckis. Inde the number of chalderis 28 chalderis 7 bolls and 6 peckis, ilk boll therof layed to 23s 4d extends in the heall to fyve hundrethe threttie and ane pund 4s 8d and ilk chalder extendis to 18 lib. 13s 4d. Here set down in detail thus: Pannes and Chanone croftis 24 bollis, Croftis of Elgen and pertinentis therof 50 bolls, Devilygrein 20 bollis etc. etc.

3rd Aprill.—Convenit the bischop, the elders with ane great pairt of the haill counsall and sindrie honest men ane great number and ordenit that giff the poor transgressit the ordinance and beggit throch the toun or landward suld be put out of the roll.

7th April.—To publische that Pasche day is appoynted the first day of Communioun for the toun, the nixt tua Saboths for the landward.

10th April. — Cristan Stevin, spous to Alexander Terras, Isobell Innes, spous to William Fraser, have acted them selffis nocht to flyt nor skald nor to speik reprotchfully of ther deid parentis wnder the pain of standing in the joggis.

2nd May. — Marioun Roy, midwyff, acted hir selff nocht to perturbe the Kirk nor offend ony bodie therin wnder the pain of standing in the joggis.

26th May.—Elspet Richardsoun acted hir selff nevir to cum again to this toun nather to speik evill of James Donaldsoun nor na uther wnder the pain of burning her on the cheik.

2nd June.—Margaret Young acted her selff nocht to offend, flyt nor bane with William M'Kingzeis wyf nor hir bairnes, nor to offend Johne Gregour nor nan of his wnder the pain of v merkis and to stand in the joggis and at the pillar with ane myter on hir heid. Alexander Hay, officer, acted him selff nocht to ding his wyff wnder the pain of xx lib.

6th June.—This day the bischop and haill elderis convenit and have wotit all in ane woice to gif to George Douglas, reader, tuentie pundis

zeerly during his calling in reading and clark to the sessioun. Ordeins Martha Cambell, spous to George Kaynzeoche, to stand with ane paper on hir heid at the pillar on Sonday nixt for sklandering Beatrix Richardsone.

16th June. — The Sessioun have wotit Katrein Cuming to be excommunicat on Sonday nixt according to the actis of the presbitrie.

23rd June.—Ordeins to ward William Terras for his dissobediences. The haill sessioun grantis and have wotit to gif v merkis to David Cowy to attend and teitche the young bairnes in the sang scooll to reid and wreit.

27th June.—Barbara Ros acted hir selff nocht to offend nor flyt with Alexander Pringill nor na uther elder wnder the pain of xls.

18th July.—Robert Martein contemptuously in the face of the sessioun callit Alexander Russell ane fals lyar. Contenowed to my Lord Bischopis hame cuming.

28th July. — Margrat Scott and Marjorie Winchester acted them selffis nocht to flyt with wtheris wnder the pain of x lib.

The Session held thirteen ordinary meetings in August, of which the Bishop was present at six, and Mr David Philp at seven. They were never present together.

19th September.—Thomas Hay, merchant, for careing geir and hors leadis to the mercat at Keithe on the Saboth day the tyme of sermoun ordenit to mak his repentance on the stooll and pay xs.

3rd October.—Margrat Wmphray at the port comitted to ward and to stand quhill v houris at evin and pay xld. and gif scho committis the lyk scho sall pay xxs. siz. gif scho sell drink on the Sabothe day the tyme of sermoun for the quhilk she is now sensurit.

3rd November.—Johne Banerman deponit becaus Janet Douglas wantit ane scheip scho turned the siwe (sieve) and the scheir and they fell on Thomas Jonkins hous.

18th November.—The bischop with the adwys of the haill elderis have grantit fourtie schillingis yeerly to be givin to ane bursar conforme to the ordour of wther kirks within the diocie.

1st December.—Ordeins William Gadderar to pas with the hand bell and publische ane fast on Sonday nixt.

12th December.—It is apoynted that the communioun be tuys ilk yeer celebrat at Pasche and at Michelmes efter the harvest imediatly and therfor the people sall be examinat ilk Sonday efter sermones ane space befor the celebratioun therof for ther better preparation therto.

Lykkis.—It is lykwayis statut that na persoun be deprehended, prophane or levd at the departur of ony persone nather singing bawdrie songis nor na lewd fassones during that time certefeing the contempneris heirof that they salbe nottit and obseruit ather ony elder present for the tyme or be the narrest freinds to the persone defounct and sall be punised in their bodies be warding ther persones or in ther geir as ther falt sall demerit.

22nd December.—To adverteis the people that the preitching on Mounday nixt the xxv. of December sall begin at nyne houris.

1621.

24th February.—Cristan Andersone and Margrat Alves have acted them selffis nocht to skauld nor flyt with wtheris.

27th February.—Marioun Findlay acted hir selff nocht to cry out, flyt nor skald nor ws execrationes aganes Margrat Andersone wnder the pain of baneshment.

16th March.—To publische and signifie to the people that Sonday cum aucht dayis is to be held ane day of publict fast for the people thair better preparatioun befor the communion.

18th March.—This day is the secund break

of Robert Gibsone journeying on the Saboth day, quha read avay south quhill the secund bell was ringand befor noyne.

20th March.—Delyverit to William Mortimer for upholding of the kirk windowis in haell glass iiij. lib.

1st April.—This day the communion celebrat to the toun.

3rd April.—Givin be Robert Buchane, merchcant burges off Aberdeen, to be givin to the poor, the last Sabothe he communicat in this kirk xxx. s.

6th April. — James Calder deponit his aithe he hard nocht Mr Dauid Philp forbit him to gif his avin wyf ane takin and gif he hed hard he suld nocht givin it to hir. William Layng declarit befor the elderis that James Calderis wyf, callit Janet Gordoun, receavit the bread, the body of the Lord, and did not eat it, bot ather put it in hir napkin or let it fall from her.

1st May.—Isobell Smith to be banesit as sklanderous in lyf and conversatioun. Gif scho obey not, the drum and the bell ar ordenit to pas throch the toun declaring her banesit.

8th May.—Ordenis the bell and the swasche or drum to pas throch this toun declaring Isobell Smyth, spous to William Taillour, armorar ane banesit persoun and presently to remowe her selff, and the officer to go to her and put her out of this toun and no to returne becaus of her ill lyf.

20th June.—The elderis have wotit and granted to Hew Falconer, elder, of Litill Inverlochtie, big his seat in the kirk betuix the queir dor and the dask at the south yll window, to be biggit and set up closs to the first grie becaus the Erll of Morray his loft hes tain the haill licht from his present seat.

27th June.—Ordenis Isobell Warden to stand at the pillar on Sonday nixt with ane paper on her heid for sklandering James Stewart.

10th July.—The session grantis quarterly xxxs. to sustein ane puir bairne quhois mother deit befor the bairne receavit baptisme, and this to be payit quhill the bairne be spanit.

27th July.—Comperit William Guthrie, merchant burges of this burgh, and gaive sax glassin windowis to the kirk, quhilk he avowit to do in his danger in perall in the seas.

11th September.—Comperit Cristane Clark and becaus scho uses to lauche in the kirk the tyme of preitching ordenit to pay xxs.

12th October.—*Mr David Philp.* It is ordenit that Mr Dauid quhen he teitches that he turn the glass quhen he gois to the pulpeit that the prayeris, psalme and preitching be all endit within the hour wnder the pain of 6s 8d.

26th October.—Johne Chalmer confessit his traveling on the sea on the Saboth day at xii houris in Robert Innes boat.

4th December.—To intimy that the communion be celebrat in the morning to the serwandis and to the maisteris off fameleis at x houris, the first bell to ring at iiij houris and the last at fyve hours.

18th December.—George Hay communicat nocht becaus James Innes and he was at variance.

1622.

1st February.—*Music cooll.*—The Sessioun and elderis haive grantit ij merkis money quarterly to be givin to Johue Schilps so lang as he helps to teitche and attend wpone the musict scooll under George Douglas.

12th February.—It is ordenit that ilk elder be ansuerable for sick dissobedients as ar within ther awin peices that they tak ane officer with them and ward the dissobedients immediatly.

5th March.—Comperit Beatrix Richardsone and confessit the resetting of Alexander Horne and socht Twysday nixt to adwys gif scho wald pas quyatly and presently of the

toun or no and gif scho compeir nocht on Tuysday scho is contentit to be publictly banesit.

19th March.—Margarat Hamiltoun summondit to gif confessioune of hir faith to sweir and communicat. It is ordenit that the carriouris that bringis in stanes to the portche dor cum first to Robert Hardie that he may sie the leads and discerne on the sufficiencie of the leads and he to pay them.

5th April.—Margret Hamiltoun, summondit pro 2°, comperit no and Mr David [the minister, Mr David Philp, is generally so designated] is ordenit to confer with hir to mowe hir to obey and communicat. Margrat Wmphray acted hir selff nocht to receave in Iudging owtland people nor wncowthe beggeris fra this furthe wnder the pain of xl s. toties quoties. William Skadkell acted him selff nocht to flyt nor abus be wordis Thomas Hay *hinc inde* wnder the pain of xl s. toties quoties.

7th April.—Margrat Hamiltoun being summondit pro 3° promesit to confer with Mr David for receaving instructioun in the trew religioun.

9th April.—Agnes Innes, spous to Thomas Purse, promesit and acted hir selff nocht to go to hir privat prayeris in the Chanonry Kirk heirefter wnder the pain of xls. *toties quoties* scho beis found ther. George Ker, cordiner, Margrat Spens, Mariory Fergusone, spous to Thomas Innes, gardener, and Isobell Innes, acted themselffis willingly nocht to go to ther prayeris or hant the said Kirk superstitiously wnder the said pain of xls. ilk persone. The last request to Margrat Hamiltoun desyring her to imbrace the trew religioun be Mr David Philp, minister, requesting her to heir, subscryve, and communicate, with certificatioun gif scho contenow obstinat the Kirk will proceid with her with the sentence of excommunication.

12th April.—William Layng, Bessie Innes, his spous, Francis Dunbar, and Mariorie

Warden, his spous, have of ther avin frie will acted them selffis nocht to skauld or flyt nor iniure wtheris be filthie speitches nor miscall wtheris be opprobrious language efter the dait of this act wnder the pain of xx lib. Margarat Hamiltonn refusit to communcat at this tyme, bot promesit to heir the preitching ordinarly quhill sche be farder resolwit.

16th April.—Ordeins Thomas Hardie to stand tua dayis on the stooll of repentance, and to ward Tuysday and Weddinsday nixt for not communicating last.

19th April.—Ordenis Margrat Gordoun to be summondit again Tuysday next wnder the pain of the censures of the Kirk to subscryve, sweir, and communicat.

23rd April.—Marjory Dunbar, spous to James Corbar (?), Agnes Innes, spous to Thomas Purse, Alexander Smyth, Helen Terras, Margrat Johnestoun, Agnes Andersone, Isobell Sutar acted themselffis not to go to ther prayeris in the Chanonrie Kirk heirefter wnder the pain of xls. *pro rato toties quoties* they transgress.

26th April.—To gif the first admonitioun to Robert Gibsoun, Margrat Hamilton, and Margrat Gordoun from the pulpet on Sonday charging them to communicat wnder pain of excommunication. This day my lord bishop and elderis grantis libertie to Francis Doctor Aparisüs to big ane seat in the rowme in the kirk wher Hew Falconer his seat was.

27th April.—James Gardyne being requerit to communicat answerit he was going out of the country presently, as also he was not reconcelit with theas that took his blood.

28th April.—To publische and mak intimation to the people that the tua nixt Sabothes ar apoynted dayis of fasting

4th May.—Margrat Hamiltonn and Margrat Gordoun being warnit and chargit to cum and heir befor the communion refused plainly.

5th May.—This is the last day of the Communion this year befor harvest cum.

13th May.—Margrat Gordoun and Margrat Hamiltoun summondit befor the presbitre again Thursday.

26th May.—First admonition to Alexander Hardie and Margrat Gordoun to obey the kirk. The secund admonition aganes Margrat Hamiltoun is contenowit upoun her faithfull promeis to compeir and satisfie siz. to communicat.

28th May.—The persons that past to the wood of Spynie on Setterday at nicht and remanit ther from xi houris to four in the morning.on the Sabothe being a day of publict fast comperit and confessit ther being ther siz. Alexander Petrie (bis), John Petrie, Androw Smith, George Innes yr in Pluskarden, Johne Bonyman Alexander Peterkin (bis), William Fumester, Patrick James, Johne Schilps, William Gardyne, Johne Cuming, James Douglas, Johne Gady, Johne Patersone Androw Geddes, Elchiner Moray, Johne Kay, Isobell Douglas, Margrat Douglas, Jeane Douglas, Isobell Cuming, Mariorie Cuming, Mariory Man, Cristan Anderson, Jeane Annand, Margrat Guthry, Janet Dollas, Isobell Froster [in all 19 men and 11 women].

2nd June.—Second admonition to Margrat Hamiltoun Margrat Gordoun and Alexander Hardie. Third admonition on 9th June and first day of prayer for them on 16th June.

9th June.—First admonition to Thomas Crukschank to conforme himselff to the trew religioun.

11th June.—Ordeins theas that war at the wood the haill nicht wagand to be summondit again Freday to heir the sessiounes will and decreit pronuncit aganes them for ther falt. William Innes promesit to gif to Johne —— (blank) the messoun 40s to begin and hewe stones to the portche dor.

16th June.—The persones that was in the wood all nicht till four houris in the morning being Sonday and ane publick day of fast

hawe sett cautioun ilk ane for ther avin pairt as followis, siz. sall mak ther repentance publictly befor the congregatioun the nixt Sabothe, the men in the west loft, the women in ther avin seats in the kirk floore and siclyk that they sall nevir do the lyk again nor committ ony kynd of falt worthie of the lyk punishment wnder the pain of publict repentance in sackclaith and four lib. ilk persone transgressand.

23rd June.—Ordeins Robert Hardie to gif xls. to Mr Alexander Smart his sone quha hes the benefeit of ane burs this yeer. My lord bishop proponit to the session and shev ane letter writtin be my lord of St Andrews desyring him to gather and gett wp the collectioun of this people for help of the aflicted Kirk of France.

25th June.—William Layng deponit Alexander Petrie said, Will ony of yow go and gett your communioun, I knave sum that hes bein at ther communioun in Ballormy. Johne Paterson ansuerit, I sie sum cuming doun the gait that was ther at it, and the said William ansuerit that vas ill spokin, it micht be the said Alexander wald chappit wpone that.

28th June.—Comperit Margrat Laye and confessit ther come ane boy from Ballormy for Margarat Gordovn and said scho was gone ther to tak hir communioun.

7th July.—Androw Steill and William Tailzour to be summondit for playing at the kyllis efter noyne befoir the preitching.

9th July.—Comperit William Tailzour, armorar, and dilatit Alexander Duffis sone twa sones of Johne Purs, Androw Steill playing at the killis efter the first bell on Sonday efternoyne and confessit lykwayis that he was playing at the penny stone efter the preitchingis accompanet with the cutler, Androw Steill, Alchinar Cwik, William Gray. Robert Sinclar wardit therfor and paying xs. to the officers and acted him selff no to ws ony publict pastem on the Saboth day again

wnder the pain of xls. and the rest to be summondit again Twysday nixt.

12th July.—Robert Hardies compt since 15th February last: 40s. to ane bursar at the colledge; to William Gadderer for lead and making of takins xls.; to George Douglas to by ane sessioun buik ii merkis. Item delyverit to William Innes to by lyme and wtheris necessaris xvii lib. iiii s. wherof x lib. givin for lyme and fourtie s. to John Tailzour, messone, and for sand iiii s.

14th July.—James Donaldsone, mercheant, cautioner and full debtor becum for Thomas Rob quha break wp the stiple dor and fled to present him befor the Sessioun betuix this and the xxi or xxiii day of July wnder the pain of xx lib.

16th July.—Grissall Urrall aledges that Marjorie Bonyman callit the said Grissall witch and that hir mother was a witche and rowit in a riddell. John Robertson, baillie, deponit Marjorie Bonyman said, Fy wpone yow that ye sufferit yon witch, witche, witche and hir mother to leiwe so long onbrunt them baithe. Janet Gordoun, spous to James Calder, deponit Marjorie Bonyman called the said Grissall witche, witche and her mother ane witche; there was lytill justice in Elgen that sufferitt them leiwe so lang onhett baithe ther hurdeis. Janet Gordoun deponit that Jeane Bonyman, spous to Alexander Lesly said scho houpit in God to cary peitis to the bak of the Ladie hill to burne hir as hir mother suld hawe bein brunt. Elspet Cuming, spous to James Petrie, elder, deponit scho hard Grissall Urrall say in the bear hous, Scho wald nocht committ hir caus to God bot to the Devill becaus it was ane seing mends scho wald have them. James Kay deponit the said Grissall said, God let me nevir die quhill I get a seing mends of them.

21st July.—Third day of prayer for Thomas Crukschank. Alexander Hardie is excommuuicat. Hew Falconer is becum cautioun

for Margarat Hamiltoun that scho sall communicat quhan the communion sall be celebrat. Margrat Gordoun hes subscryvit and sworne to the trew professit religioun. Johne Nachtie deponit he hard Marjorie Bonyman say that Grissallis mother saillit in a riddell.

2nd August.—Comperit James Rutherfurd, provest, in ane particular betuix his wyff and Marioun Moray, hir mother, and desyrit the particularis to be tryit quhilk the sessioun granted. James Law, spous to Marioun Moray socht Twysday nixt to giff his complent quhilk is lykwayis granted. James Rutherfurd is willinglie becum cautioun for Cristane Lawe, his spous, that scho sall nocht affend nor flytt with hir mother or father or thair folkis fra this furthe wnder the pain of xl. lib. Siclyk the sessioun ordeins the new seatt sett wp be Marioun Moray to be away agan till it be decydit to quhom it apperteins.

6th August.—Archibald Law hes giwin in ane bill wpone Cristane Law, spous to James Rutherfurd, provest, and hes tain to prowe it on Tuysday nixt.

11th August.—The fourt day of prayer for Gilbert Andersone and fift for Thomas Crukschank and first for James Gordoun.

20th August.—James Law, Marioun Moray and Archibald Law ordenit to sett cautioun to keipt peace with the provestis wyf as also the auld seat to be put in again, cautioun being sett. Archibald Law acted to salut and reverendly behave himself to the provest in tyme cuming wtherwayis he salbe censurit as the sessioun sall think good.

23rd August.—Agnes Innes [and eight others] acted themselves to keep the kirk the time of preachings and prayer under the pain of xl s. Expenses for bigging the porch door: To Clan Gunn for winning of stanes to be hewin work and leading therof 46s 8d., for tua schoollis 3s 4d., ane riddell iiii s, ane tub and

bucket 12s., to Mekle Androw 16d., to clos up the east dor of the queir 10s., for ane hogheid to be ane tub and punsion to the wark iii lib , for 7 sparris 56s., for cutting the hogheid 2s., to Lang Androw and Mauro for careing the stenis neir to the wark quhilk war about the kirk dispersit 24s., for tua yokingis to lead sand 6s., for bringing stanes from the Chanonrie kirk 3s 4d., for tua leads of lyme 11s. to the smithe for cleikis and stancheons 42s 8d.

3rd September.—No sessioun haldin becaus of the marcat.

13th September.—It is apoynted that ilk elder sears and espy narrowlie in the kirk quhat persones they miss out of the kirk ilk Tuysday and Sonday and quhom they fand absent to caus summond them again the next sessioun day. Siclyk it is appoynted that the wisitours and officeris be wrgit on ther conscience to gif just declaration of ther diligence the tyme of preitching. Item it is appoynted secundo that ilk officer quhov oft he comittis ony fault or ony poynt of negligence in office sall pay 6s. 8d. or ward 24 houris.

20th September. — Robert Smithe committed to waird for breaking Robert Innes zeard the tyme of preitching on the Sabothe day to pay 20s. and ward quhill he pay it.

25th September.—Ordeins Alexander Hepburne and Robert Martein to be summondit again Tuysday nixt for perturbing the kirk. Johne Fumester deponit Alexander Hepburne pat his thie to stay Robert Martein and wald nocht lat him sitt doun and said to him, Will thow sitt on my knie, kneaff.

29th September.—Janet Walker maid her repentance for sklandering the provest.

1st October.—No sessioun becaus of the marcatt.

25th October.—George Kay gaif in ane bill of complent wpone Ninian Davidsone for striking wp his lokis steilling his keyis and

took avay drink and bread sindrie and dyvers Sabothe dayis the tyme of preitching. Agnes Jamesone deponit Niniane Danidsone took out the chalmer key with the crook of the ladill out of the almry and opnit the dor and brocht butt drink to the haill hous to Isobell Innes, Barbara Pattoun, Thomas Straquhan, Johne Fleming and Barbara Murisone and gaif them sume dayis tua pyntis sum wther Saboths thrie pyntis drink.

27th October.—William Gadderer began to gif licht to tho Reader.

29th October.—The session apoyntis ane merk to be givin to tua men for redding about the queir ilk day till the queir be cleingit without and within.

5th November.—The Bischop and haill elderis hawe apoynted and givin to Cristane Law, spous to James Rutherfurd, provest, libertie and only power to sitt in the seat sumtyme apperteining to umquhill Isobell Barclay, sumtyme spous to Alexander Pringill as hir proper seat in the kirk.

8th November.—James Layng appoynted to hald abak the beggeris from the kirk dor ilk Saboth and Tuysday the tyme of preitchiug, for the quhilk he sall have xvi d. for his panes.

12th November.—The elderis thinkis good that my lord bischop tak wp the rest of the taxatioun apoynted for the afflicked kirk of France and gif peace be granted to them the said taxatioun to be imployit to sum wther godlie ws. William Gadderer is apoynted to cum to my Lord bischop and receave silver to be lyme quhan he finds it in the toun to be sold. William Gadderer begane to gif candill to the kirk siz ilk nicht thrie. Alexander Hepburn to pay four poundis sit on the stool of repentance one day and agrie with Robert Martein for perturbing the kirk, and Robert Martein to pay 40s and mak his repentance and agree with the said Alexander Hepburn becaus he left not the seat tymously, bot

trouble, at the provest's command quhen he was bidden.

15th November.—Alexander Hepburn to pay ten poundis for his hiche contempt in not compeiring.

17th November.—It is ordenit that intimatioun be maid with the hand bell that all landward persones remowe them selffis out of the toun on Setterday nixt fra xii houris and that the publict marcat desist and stay, that there be no bying nor selling publict, nather eating nor drinking in taverns and that na taverne sell meat or drink after 12 houris the said Setterday wnder the pain of ten lib.

24th November.—The presbiterie ordein Alexander Hepburn to stand att the pillar in sackclaithe ilk Saboth day the tyme of preitching ay and quhill the pastor find him sufficientlie penitent. The elderis ordeins him to pay xx lib. penaltie befor he begin his repentance. He promesit to obey.

19th November.—Sonday next is the last day of communion and preitching salbe on Setterday befor.

6th December.—The sessioun met efter the evening prayeris.

7th December.—The haill elderis think that James Gardyne and Margrat Gordoun suld be excommunicat.

10th December.—Margrat Gordoun said she wald communicat within fourtein dayis. Robert Gordon not communicat.

13th December.—Margrat Gordoun promised to communicat at Pasche. The presbiterie intimat that if she communicat nocht this Twysday scho wald be excommunicat the next Saboth. Alexander Hepburn paid his penalty 20 lib.

15th December.—Alex. Hepburn compeared in sackclathe.

17th December.—It is statut *de novo* that nane seik to baptize thair bairnes bot on preitching dayis immediatly befor sermon or efter. On Setterday next it is appoynted

that ther be preitching efter noyne befor the communion according to our yeerly custome and therfoir that all men within this parosche desist from all handie work from xii houris furthe and address them to the preitching be the first bell. Also that the auld actis be procleamit from the pulpeit inhibiting all superstitious reitis befor the tyme of Youll speciallie the Chanonrie kirk and kirkyeard, dancing, guysing and all uther forbidden ryotis

20th December. — Robert Gordon and Robert Gibsone promesit to communicat this Sabothe, wtherwayis excommunication sall follow. James Gordon and Margrat Gordon also to be excommunicat if they communicat not this next Sabothe.

31st December.—Robert Gibson, Margrat Gordon and James Gordon to compeir befor the presbitery for not communicating.

1623.

7th January.—Comperit James Tailzour for playing on ane trumpt to ane number off lasses quha war dancing to his playing contrar the actis and being inhibited during this tyme from the pulpeit. The lasses name are Maige Falconer, Margrat Torrie, Maige Layng, Agnes Jamesone, James Sim his voman, Robert Martein his good dochter and Robert Dunbar his voman, Magie Stevin in the college, Cristane Gall, Beatrix Terras, Isobell Pattoun. James Mitchell, Isobel Fynny sang to them in James Lawis hous. *Gwysseris.* James Bonyman, Alexander Petrie, Johne Petrie, Robert Dunbar, Archibald Law. Theas past in ane sword dance in Paul Dunbar his closs and in the kirk zeard with maskis and wissoris on ther faces. Penaltie 40s each.

24th January.—To intimat that the catechising of the people sall be ilk Thursday and Freday at the prayeris.

31st January.—Archibald Law being summondit be the officer to compeir befor the

session for guysing and dansing raif the summonds and baid the officer tell the provest and bid him hing him selff wherfoir ordeins him to be summondit again wnder the pain of the censures of the kirk.

4th February.—James Law, Marion Moray his sponse and Archibald Law ther son, acted themselves not to flyt, skauld &c. James Rutherfurd provest and his wife.

25th February.—Ordenis Alexander Wrquhart to compeir on Freday and purge him selff gif he has and vses papistis books.

28th February.—Ordenis Margrat Scott ather to obey the sessiones decreit or than to be carted throch the toun wherupon scho was presently directed to ward.

11th March.—Archibald Law, in presence of the bishop and elderis satt doun on his kneis and creavit God mercie and the provest quhome he hed offendit and promesit nocht to do the lyk again.

21st March.—James Annand, mercheand burges of Elgen, being in Weisell, deponit he saw Robert Innes, spouse to Mariory Lesly in this toun parische on the said river off Wiseill and helpit to seik him of a long tyme befor he culd be found.

9th April.—This day in presence of Johne Robertsone &c. the poor folk receavit ilk ane of them the townes mark to be fixit on ther breistis and they only to receave the tounes almes and ordeins Androw Stalker to receave four lib. for making of them.

13 (?14) Aprill.—Collected £6 15s. This is the last day of Communion at this time quhilk was celebrat be the bischops and the last tyme that evir he gave it or sall.

4th May.—James Gordon communicated this day in presence of the haill congregatioun.

11th May.—This day Alexander be the mercie of God bischop of Moray [Bishop Douglas] depairted this lyf in the morning be four houris.

12th May.—To intymie from the pulpeit

and desyr the people to incres and inlairge ther charitie at the brod to the poor in respect of the straitnes of the yeer.

20th May.—Alexander Russell, tailzour, and Robert Martein, burgess of Elgen, gaif in ilk ane his bill of complent befor the sessioun wpone wtheris and becaus nane of them provit ther billis baithe committed to ward quhill they pay xls. ilk ane.

Running on the Calsey.—Comperit Elspet Walker, Helen Wilsone, Janet Reid, Elspet Gall, Janet Brander and ilk ane of them ordenit to pay 6s 8d for rinning and taking on reasses wp and doun the publict streitis efter supper trubling the toun and perturbing the nichtbouris and breidding ane evill exemple to wtheris to do the lyk and sett cautioun nocht to do the lyk. Siclyk William Layng and Alexander Petrie convict in the same falt ordenit to ward quhill viii houris at evin and pay xls. ilk ane becaus they wtterit presumptuous speitches. To summond the millaris of Pettindriche and Inverlochtie for grindiug on the Sabothe dayis.

22nd May.—William Layng declarit that Thomas Kinnerd, ane of the elderis, break of his avin man and causit him rin with the rest and therfor desyrit him to be censurit with the rest.

29th May.—For banning and cursing the visitour and deforcing the officer Jeane Kay is ordenit to stand on Setterday nixt in the j ggis from nyne houris to ellevin.

20th May.—James Bonyman for scurring and running prophanlie upone the hie streitis to pay ane merk. He is committed to ward till he pay xls. for gwyssing at Youll, and 20s for bydiug from the kirk on ane Sonday efternoyne and deteining wtheris with him drinking and creaving his debtis, quha contemptuously break ward and passed hame and payit nothing.

6th June.—The elderis have all wotit and desyris Mr David Philp to excommunicat

Robert Gibsone conforme to the will of the presbitry having warrand of the lordis of the hie commissioun.

13th June.—James Innes for offending the Sessioun and running on the hie streitis payit 30s. Ordeins Thomas Corsar to be wardit quhill he pay ten merkis for grinding cornes on his milne (Pettindreich) vpone the Sabothe day.

25th July.—This is the publict marcat day callit Sanct James day.

27th July.—Robert Gibson this day receavit and absolvit from excommunication be Mr David Philp.

1st August.—To intimy to the people that Tuysday next being the fyft of August be keepted as a day of thanksgiving for his Maiesteis delyverance. That ane letter be directed to Findrisie to repair the northe yll. Mariorie Crichtoun in the kirk imediatly before sermoun hurlit abak Mariorie Bonyman's stool upon hir selff and iniurit hir werie ewill and patt the lass from hir seat and raif hir plaid. Grissall Mawer deponit Mariorie Crichtoun hurlit on her stooll on Mariorie Bonyman as also that scho took up the lass stooll and kest it away. It was between the second bell and the preaching. The Session ordein them nevir to sit near each other.

15th August.—Mariorie Bonyman complenit vpone Alexander Innes, son to Alexander Innes, notar in the colledge, quho come to hir in the kirk befor the efternoyn's preitching and dang her and abused her and wald nocht suffer hir to sit in hir seat in the kirk. Helen Leslie deponit he strick Mariorie Bonyman with his arm and said to her, Rys, koyne. Cristane Milne deponit he strak her with his dowble arme. Bessie Hay deponit scho saw the bairne strik her with his elbok and said D—— a bitt of hir sittis heir.

19th August.—Alexander Gibsone complanit that Alexander Urquhart callit him kneif and the said Alexander confessit he

said Ye hawe bein in England and that is ane Englisch knewish trik. The session ordenit him to confes his falt quha ansuerit contemptuously he had rather tak his avin durk and stick himselff with it befor he creavit him pardoun. At the quilk ansuer the elderis being offendit contenowit ther censur till ane mair full sessioun.

22nd August.—The elderis ordeins Alexander Wrquhart on Sonday next to sitt under the mercheant loft and ther publictly confes his falt.

2nd September.—Ane marcat day and therfor nather preitching nor sessioun.

12th September.—It is statute and ordenit gif ony indweller in the toun or college refuise the brod and stand at the kirk dor to gadder the peoples collecting being requerit lawfully the nicht befor except he hawe ane sufficient excuss sal pay als mekle as is collected at ony tyme at the dores.

21st September.—Referris theas that zeid to the mercat on Sonday last to Freday nixt. Ther names are William Cobane [and six others].

26th September.—William Hephburne payit xls. for causing his serwantis work wpone the Sabothe as risping and wasching zearne and claithe the said day.

30th September.—The Synod convenit in the kirk quher the bischop preitched the first day and Mr Robert Barroun on the morow.

7th October.—The elderis decern Marjorie Crichtoun to humble hir selff on hir kneis befor the congregatioun and creave God mercie and Marjorie Bonyman for the last offence done to hir.

10th October.—This day elderis nominat to bear rulle for this yeer; elderis for the N.W. Mr Gawin Douglas, provest [and three others], N.E. Alexander Leslie, ballie [and three others], S.E. James Douglas, ballie [and three others], S.W. Nicholas Dunbar, ballie [and four others], also one for Auldmilnes,

two for the college, four decanes, nine for the landward and three for Pluscarden.

17th October.—Cristane Andersone ordenit to stand in the towbuithe quhill evin for flyting and skalding.

Rests—James Donaldson's cautioun for Thomas Rob for obedience to the kirk quha lap the kirk wall.

11th November.—Being Martimes day convenit no elders.

25th November.—It is ordenit that quhair ony deis of the landvart within this parosche that the adiacent nichtbouris help to convoy the corps to be bureit under the pain of xxs. ilk personn dissobedient.

5th December.—Ordeins the parentis to pay xxs. only for the buriall of ther bairnes that sall happin to be bureit in the Chanonrie Kirk. Comperit William Kerow being summondit for charmeing and confessit Andrew Innes send his sister Yssones wyf for him to that effect as also that he charmit ane called Russell, ane chapman laid presently lyand in Thomas Davidsone's hous and promesit to dilatt and declair again Freday next sic utheris charmit be him as his memorie culd affoird and declarit the words of the charme:

To witt:—

The quaquand fewer [fever] and the trimbling fewer
and the sea fewer and the land fewer
bot and the head fewer and the hart fewer
and all the feweris that God creatit
In Sanct Johnes name, Sanct Peteris name
and all the Sancts of heavins name
our Lord Jesus Crystis name.

9th December.—The elderis ordenis Johne Andersone to gif silver to buy boards to big ane seat to the bischop's dochteris.

19th December.—William Kerow acted himselff willinglie to stand on Sonday in sackclaith bairfuttit and bairleggit and confess his great offence and sin in charming the people as also hes acted him selff never to

do the lyk under the pain of deathe and hes promesit to reveill and tell ather to the minister or reader gif ony persoun, young or auld comes to him or sendis for him to be charmed.

1624.

16th Jan.—Johne Chalmer in Linkwood delyverit 40s. to Johne Andersone for libertie to burie ane of his friendis in the Chanonrie Kirk.

[The bishop presides at almost every meeting of Session.]

20th Jan.—James Layng hes wndertein to hald out the poor and strong beggeris and strangeris out of the kirk dor, calsey and haill toun under the pain of 10s. weiklie and gif he do his pairt he sall have ten s. weiklie for his panes and travell therin.

2nd March.—It is appoynted that James Layng be payit weiklie of 8s. be the balleis for halding out uncouth beggeris of the toun.

5th March.—To intimy that the Communion is to be celebrat at Pasche to wit on Sonday befor Pasche the first day, Pasche day the secund, and the Sabothe following the thrid and last day.

21st March.—This day my Lord Bischop delyverit to Johne Lesly, maister of wark, for bigging the hospitall ten angellis.

28th March.—My Lord Bischop publicly from the pulpeit inhibetit the women to hald and wear ther plaids about ther heids so uncumly in the kirk the tyme of sermone, sielyk that they sitt nocht with ther bakis to the pulpeit and schow them that gif they contemned this admonition they suld be censurit mair seveirly.

1·th April.—Katrein Gordon threatened with scurging hir bodie throch the toun, to be brunt with ane hett key on the cheek and therefter immediatly to be banesit.

20th April.—Robert Gibsone ordenit to pay 20 lib. for not communicating, being so often requerit.

2nd May.—Robert Gibson sent 20 merks in pairt of his penaltie.

4th May.—Robert Gibsone sent 3 angells quhilk war nocht of just wecht for quhilk caus the Session wald not receav them.

7th May.—Thomas M'Kingzie sett in the joggis becaus he had no Englis to confess his falt on the stool and payit 40s.

9th May.—It is statut and ordenit that all sic persones as sall be found and deprehendit swearing, banning, cursing or blaspheming the halie name of God sall stand at the pillar the tyme of sermone and therefter sall cum from the pillar and stand befor the pulpeit, confess ther falt and creave God mercie and the congregatioun to quhom they ar ane skandell and gif they fall in the same falt again they sall stand in the joggis.

11th May.—Maige Waldie and Margrat Innes efter sermone next Sonday to ryis wp and stand on ther feit and confess ther falt of mirding [mird, to toy amorously], lauching and playing them the last Sabothe the tyme of sermone and pay 10s. ilk ane of them. Jean Kay to be wardit till she pay 10s for selling meit and drink the tyme of preitching and gif scho do the lyk again scho is becum acted of hir awin frie will to stand in the joggis.

14th May.—Jeane Kay for calling Johne Gregour mensworne dog is ordenit to sitt on her kneis on Setterday at the gowis and aske the said Johne pardon, and gif scho offend heirefter scho sall be punisched be standing in the gowes.

18th May.—George Forbes, servitour to Thomas Allane acted himself not to weage about Spynie hareing nestis the tyme of preitching wnder the pain of standing in the joggis.

21st May.—Ordenis the officeris weiklie to attend the fische mercat evrie ane as befallis him deligentlie to observe sic persones as sall happin to swear and bane, alsweill byaris as

sellaris the fischar wyffis to be wardit quhill they pay tua s. and townes folkis to be poyndit conforme to the auld actis.

8th June.—Ordeins Johne Leslie to gif Robert Hardie xl lib. to by ane ruiff to the queir.

15th June.—Nane to be found wagand about the feildis on ane Sonday the tyme of preitching under the pain of 20s.

26th June.—Receavit be Johne Lesly from the ladie Main tua hundrethe merkis money for reparation of the hospitall in pairt of the soum of the kirk penalteis in her Ladyship's hand. Thomas Purs, David Purs, James Duff, James Kay, Rany the sklatter, Alexander Gray, James Mitchell at the bowllis in the morning the last Sabothe day ordenit to pay xls. ilk ane and ward quhill evin.

16th July.—Ordeins Adam Rany to pay xls. for playing at the bowllis on ane Saboth day in the morning.

25th July.—Janet Lesly, spous to James Grant, was fund wasching clais in Cokstounes zeard the tyme of preitching. James Innes was ther playing him the tyme of preitching.

23rd July.—Androw Annand, thesaurer, is ordenit to gif fyve merkis money to the tua Gretians out of the puire folkis purse.

31st July.—Becaus Thursday nixt being the fyft day of August quhilk day his Majestie eschapit Gowrie thressoun [The Gowrie Conspiracy, 1600] to intimy from the pulpeit on Sonday nixt that ther salbe preitching that day and thanksgiving for his said delyverie.

3rd August.—Ordeins Androw Allane to furneis thrie ellnes of linning to be ane winding scheit to ane puire man callit Androw Innes. [A bier to carry the corpse to the to the grave then frequently did duty for a coffin.]

7th August.—Robert Innes, baillie of Elgin, ratefeit ane promeis of mareag with Jeane Innes, dochter to the guidman of Cockstoun.

17th August.—Delyverit xx lib. from Robert Gibsone.

27th August.—Mr David Philp declarit to the Session that he had delyverit to the Commissioners for ingadering the contrabutioun of Dunfermeling four scoir fyve lib. iiiis. viiid. 40s receavit for Margrat Innes lair in the Chanrye kirk.

31st August — Comperit Mr Alexander Clark, and declarit he was willing to leawe of his cours in the exercis and studie to theologie for a tyme during the tounes will, and willinglie submittis him selff to tryell gif he may be found meit for teitching the grammar scool of Elgen. Siclyk comperit Mr James Lesly, and declares he vas also willing to submit him selff to tryall unto quhom is assignit the nynt day for ther tryells of the nixt moneth of September. Horat. lib. 3. 2 ode. James Douglas, baillie, and Robert Hardie ordenit to go throch the toun the marcat day, the first September. to requeir the charitie of the people to David Wilsone to help his estait again quhais hous guids and geir was all brunt with fyr. Johne Manro and lang Androw hes takin in hand to hald away all uncouthe and strange beggeris and ilk persone of them tua sall receave weikly for ther panes vis.

Collections in September—5th, 45s; 7th, 14s; 12th, 50s; 14th, 6s 8d; 19th, 48s; 28th, 6s 8d.

24th September.—Jhone Warden and Isobell Warden his spous to be put in the jogis fra Setterday at aucht houris to tueff houris.

8th October.—William Terras, yr., skinner, ordenit to stand at the pillar with ane paper on his heid contening the caus of his offence on Sonday the tyme of preitching to wit for sklandering Christane Clark.

17th October.—Mr Jhone Hay declarit that George Douglas, son to William Douglas of Pettindriche, left ane hundrethe merkis to help the hospitall and poor therein.

19th October.—Katrein Norie warnit to compeir on Freday nixt to heir her selff decernit and fynit for scheaving of candill and grinding on queirnis on the Sabothe day.

[Mr Gawine Douglas, provost.]

16th November.—Johne Leslie, collector, appointed for bigging of the hospitall and ouerseer of the work theiroff having givin in ane fitted count in presens of Hew Falconer, Mr John Hay and Mr David Philp, appointed auditouris to the same, his wholle charge was found to extend to four hundereth pundis money wheroff he resaiued ane hundreth merks fra ane reverend father Jhone, Bischope of Moray, and fyve hundereth merks fra Dame Marie Innes, relicte of wmqnhille Alexander, last Bischope, in pairt of payment off such kirk penalties as were restand in hir hands in tyme of his deceasse quhilk sowme of four hundereth punds aboue wreitten the said Jhone is found to haue debursit and bestowed the same upon the building and fabrice of the said hospitall togither with the sowme off tuentie seavin lib. aucht s. iiiid. superexpendit be the said Jhone.

19th November.—Ordeanes Jannet Cumming [and seven other women] ilk ane of them to pay sex s. viiid. for break of the Sabboth day.

23rd November.—Jannet Brodie, servant to William Leslie, is become acted not to curse nor ban nor sweare under paine of her half-yeir's fie.

The usual form of entry in the minutes of all Sunday and Tuesday meetings begins thus—"Visitouris at the east, Jhone Leslie, Jhone Dunbar; Visitouris at the vest, Robert Innis and Alexander Leslie."

3rd December.—The next Sabboth being appointed for celebratioune of the Lord's Supper William Gadderer is ordeined to go throw the towne and discharge be the bell all handie wark and selling of meat and drink

conforme to the ordour under the paine of fyve lib. fra tuell houris Satterday efternoone.

4th December.—Convenit the Bischope provest and remanent elders. Collected that day be William Falconer 40s. Nicolas Dunbar and Robert Hardie collectors at the west dore for the morning service, Thomas Kinnaird and William Falconer at the east dore, Hew Falconer and Robert Innes, collectors at the west dore at the second service. James Dowglasse and Mr Jhon Hay at the east dore, Jhone Leslie, Robert Hardie, Jhone Andersone, and Androw Annand to assist them at the tables.

5th December.—The communion celebrat be the Bischope befoir noone and be Mr David Philp in the morning. Collected at the dorres the said day ten poundis 16s 8d.

7th December.—Non-communicants delaited be the elders:—Alexander Innes, advocat [and eleven others].

10th December.—Comperit Robert Gordone and declarit he was willing to communicat and that he did not withdraw himselfe from the communioun on Sonday last in contempt zit culd give no good reasone for his absence. Robert Gordoun's wyffe, Jean Leslie, excusit be reasone of seiknes. Medge Rosse is ordenit to compeir on Soonday nixt at the pillar with the myter on hir head and mak hir repentance.

17th December. — James Chalmer and Alexander Mitchell confessit they trewshe corne on Soonday last be aught houris in the morning and some efternoone befoir the soone setting quha are ordeaned for their offence to mak their publick repentance at the piller as they did. Robert Kinnaird confessit he directed them to doe the said work in respect of necessitie their being naine in deid as was tryit.

24th December. — William Cuming and

James Innes appoynted visitouris for Setterday being Zoull day.

26th December.—The visitouris declared good obedience.

1625.

2nd Januar.—The visitours declared good obedience in the people.

14th Januar.—Ordeans Helen Hay to be declarit publicklie banished be sound of bell furthe of the parosche and that nane resett hir onder paine off ten merkis.

16th Januar.—Nota. There is four fild book [now (1897) only three] perteining to the session besyd the book presentlie filland, resauit at the death of George Dowglasse quha depairted the aleavint of Januar 1625

18th Januar.—It is ordeanit that nane sal bring in their burne to brew on the Sabboth day efternoone onder paine of tuentie s. Ordeans Alexander Boynd to be wardit for dinging of his wyffe till he sett cautioun to abstein. Ordeins to giue long Androw vis. viiid. weiklie and to Scottie tua s. weiklie for taking ordour with the outlandische poore.

25th Jan.—Nicolas Dunbar, bailzie, geue in ane complaint against Robert Smyth for his wicked execrationis utterit agains him quhilk wes proven and therfoir the said Robert Smyth ordeaned to ward in the laighe toilboith quhill Sooneday nixt efternoone and then to come and confesse his offence craving pardone vpon his knees befor the sessioune and therefter sett catioune never to doe the lyk in tyme comming.

4th Februar. — Mr Gawne Dowglasse, provest, gen in ane bill against Alexander Hepburne for his sklanderous speaches anent the rasong of ane merche stane, &c.

20th Februar.—Ordeans Mr David Philp to produce the compt anent the monie delyuerit be the landwart for the ornamentis off the communioun on Tuysday nixt.

25th Februar.—Jhone Andersone ordeand to giue William Mortimer fourtie aught s. for

aught foot of glass put on the kirk window the said day.

1st March.—It is ordeand that the relict of wmquhille George Dowglass sall haue monethlie to support his thrie pounds money, the one halfe quheroffe be the towne and the wther halfe furth of the readiest pertining to the sessioune and this to stand induring the will of the sessioune.

3rd Apryll.—This Sabboth a solemne fast observed for preparation to the holie supper off the Lord.

12th Apryll. — William Scott, servant to Nicolas Dunbar ratifiet promeis to Agnes Gordoune that they sall haue the 10 Com. beleiffe and Lord's prayer for abstinence and that they sall accomplishe their mariadge within fourtie dayes under paine of 10 lib.

19th Apryll.—The quhilk day comperit Jaspert Hay and is acted befoir the sessioune that he sall not heirefter be his key giue entrie for bureing of dead corps within the Chanrie Kirk vtherwayes he salbe depryved of the custodie theiroff.

26th Apryll.—It is to be intimat on Soonday nixt that sic as keipis not Tysdayes sermone the old act salbe execute against.

29th Apryll. — James Kay hes not communicat neither doctor a parisiis wyffe.

3rd May.—Androw Kay ordeand to pay 40s. for the buriall of his good mother, Jhone Pedder and Patrik Chalmer ilk ane of them tuentie s. for the layer off their children.

6th May.—Robert Gordon and his wyffe [and six others] to be summoned for ther nocht communicating.

8th May.—Gilbert Smyth payit to Jhone Andersone for ignorance of the 10 Commandis 40s.

13th May.—Ordeans intimatioune to be maid that the Synod holds in Elgine on Tysday nixt.

24th May.—Patrik Chalmer ordeand to pay

for his contumacie tua merkis for the buriall of his bairne in the Chanonrie Kirk. Robert Dunbar ordeand to pay 6s 8d for lowsing Jannet Moray but or er from hir ward.

7th June.—Isobell Gray and Jannet Christie commit to ward and ordeand to be put in the joigs on Satterday nixt for their open scalding the last Sabboth and nevir to doe the lyk againe vnder pain off banishment quhilk wes doone. William Cuming ordeanit to pay 40s as cationar for William Russell quha haid not the 10 commandis quhen he was maried.

17th June.—No Sessioune on Tysday last, it being the markit day.

24th June.—James Innes ordaneit to order the west loft. Agnes Wat to be banisheit on Satterday, 25th Juni, with sound of drum.

8th July.—Ordaines John Anderson to give to George Finlay, wricht, tuentie schillingis for two broadis and to help him in his necessity. Ordaines Margaret Law to pay half a merk for not compeirance being summondit.

31st July.—Giffin be Alexander Mylne, merchand of Dundie, out of his avne liberalitie to the hospitall and for the supplie of the puir 50 merkis.

31st August.—Comperit Margaret Hamiltoun and confessit that she had taine the communioun a thousand tymes efter her avne fassioun and was nocht resolvit to tak the sacrament as zit with the rest of the congregatioun.

5th October.—The names of these that abusit the lykwake in Johne Robertsone's hous: Robert Cuik, James Mylne [and five others]

7th October.—Convenit the haill sessioun in the chusing of thair magistratis and elderis as is eftir specifeit: Mr Gavin Douglas, provest etc. William Nauchtie to be summondit againe Wedinsday for stoulking corne on the Sabbath day. The quhilk day elderis and deaconis was chossin in the sessioun hous.

12th October.—Androw Duncan to be summondit for grinding on a queirn on the Sabbath day. William Nauchtie to be summondit againe the nixt dyet for going to Doles or Carmichell kirk for superstitioun to seik help at santis, as is aledgit.

14th October.—Sick of the landwart elderis as wer summondit to this day and not comperit ar to be taxit for ther absence as the seat thinkis meit.

19th October.—Ordaines that all these that come to any lykwake to vse any prophanatioun in tyme of reading of chapteris or singing of psalmes ar actit in fourtie schillingis except they be send for be the maistar of the familie. Decernis that Thomas Ragg, seruitor to Alexander Leslie, if he be found againe to be from his maisteris hous through the toun all night that he sall pay 20s toties quoties.

David Murray, clerk to the Session.

3rd November.—John Meldrum, son to the guidman of Jackistoun ratefied promise of mariage to Jean Annand, dochter to Mr George Annand, guidman of Moristoun.

20th November.—The seat thinking it meit that the guidman of Petindreichis desk, being like to hald them that orderlie setis them therin, that they sall draw it out to the west farder under the loft that it may be moir easier to hald these personis who cumis to sit therin and this done with the generall assent of the sessioune and the east end theroff to pertaine to the laird Duffes.

23rd November.—The names of these who wer out of the kirk on Sonday was callit this day and being absent ordeanit to pay half a merk.

9th December.—Ordeanis William Gaderer to go throw the toun with the bell to publish a fast on Sonday nixt for better preparatioun to the communioun. Marjorie Fergusone comperit this day for going into the Channerie Kirk to hir prayeris and forbiddin not to go

thair againe bot keip the vseuall kirk in the toun.

1626.

Ordeanes that no paroshner, nether in the toun nor in landwart receat ony stranger beggeris wnder the paine of ten merkis.

13th January.—Jonet Gib gafe in a bill of sclander against Elspet Norie. The said Elspet callit confessit that scho said till hir she tuik out a plait and a trenchour out of hir sons quhilk was giffin to hir oath and the said Jonet sueir the contrair and the said Elspet ordeand to stand with the mythcr on hir head, quhilk she did.

25th January.--Jonet Russell ordeant to tak hir to seruice within a fourtein dayis vnder the pain of 40s.

29th January.—Givin to Issoble Leslie to help hir and hir bairnes in their necessitie 3 lib.

1st Marche.—The Sessioun thocht guid to look out all that left ony thing to the hospitall in particular George Douglas, Petindreghis sone, a hundreth merkis, be Alexander Mylne of Dundee 50 merks, be John Bonyman, burgess of Dundee 50 merks, be James Andersone, burges of Elgin 40 lib.

5th Marche.—Ordaines that euerie one of the elderis who salbe found absent fra the Sessioun on a Sessioun day without ane laufull excuise that they sall pay tuelfe pennyis.

10th March.—Giffin to John King 20s. to helpe him out of the cuntrey to get remeid to his halse [neck or throat], as his testimoniall bearis granted to him be the Sessioun.

22nd March.—Ordaines the officeris to poynd all these that are out of the kirk on the oulk dayis from the preiching without a lawfull excuise. Givin for table clothis be Mr David Philp to serue the communion buird £14 8s. and that at the command of the sessioun as was sichted.

26th March.—Ordeanis Johne Andersone to give 40s to a man to heall the ladis leg that was hurt with the plough and to give him tother 40 when it is heall.

29th March.—To summond the milleris for grinding on the Sabbath day. Andrew Martein to pay halfe a merke for bringing in malt on the Sabbath day. Comperit Thomas Davidsone and payit fourty shillings for his wyffis buriall in the Chanonry Kirk.

31st March. — Summondit these in the colleege that hantis the Chanery kirk to ther prayeris and Elspet Innes quha hes actit hir selfe vnder 40s. not to go ther againe. To intimate with the bell that nane by or sell in the tyme of preiching on Setterday efternoone vnder the paine of fyve lib. Sonday next the first day of communion and the four bailzies to be visitoris.

1st April.—Thomas Allane, cutlar to remoue himself of this toun and not to be found in it againe vnder the paine of banishment without a lawfull testimoniall.

7th April.—Collectit at the preparatioun sermon on Setterday 26s 8d collectit the day afoire being Gud Fryday 35s. Collectit on the three communion days 1st 8th and 15th April £6 6 8, £8 9 8 and £8 8 4 respectively. Giffin to a stranger of Chaster his wyffe and bairnes 24s.

19th April —Mr Alexander Duff, minister of God's word at Golspey ratified a promise of marriage to Jean Douglas daughter of Mr John Douglas, burges of Elgin.

23rd April.—Givin to a supplicant from Glasgow 40s.

3rd May.—Johne Andersone, kirk thesaurer, ordeanit to gif four pundis of the buriall silver to the man that bigis the Chanerie kirk yaird dyk.

14th May.—Ordeans twentie schillingis to be given to his men for to go to the Germoche and draw vp the treis from the sea out of the

skip (? ship) to the land for bigging off the queir.

17th May.—Comperit Agnes Cumming and Bessie —— (blank) and censureit for danceing on the Sabbath nicht at evin at ten houris on the calsay and promeist not to be found in the lyk offence vnder the paine of the censures off the kirk.

19th May.—Compeirit Alexander Petry, Alexander Cuik, Alexander Grigor and censureit for ryding of the gray [also called gay] meir ordenit ilk ane of them to pay a merke being favourit, bot the act against it was ten pundis. Comperit William Daniesone a stranger come to this toun for certane slauchter he had commit, ordanes him to mak off this toun not having a testimoniall.

24th May.—These that wer absent from the kirk wer summondit, being at a landwart brydell, comperit not, were poyndit the nixt dyet and wardit 48 houris, and all brydells dischargeit to be on Sonday any tyme heirefter.

24th May.—Receavit thrie pundis fra tuo men for wanting off the commandis, going to be mairsit, ordanes it to be givin to the folkis that bigis the Channery Kirk zaird dyk.

26th May.—The preiching to be on the Tuysday as beffoire.

28th May. — Ordaines to ward Robert Dunbar and John Douglas, officeris for not presenting the poyndis of these that were absent fra the kirk and ilk ane of the officeris to pay tuell shillings.

12th June.—The officers to pay a merk ilk ane for being absent from the Session, the two merks to be giffin to the men that biggis the kirk zaird dyk.

27th June.—Robert Midletoun gave in 48 schillingis to William Gadderer to gif John Andersone, kirk thesaurer, for the want of the comandements afore his mariadge.

4th July.—It is statute and ordaineit that every ane found louping over the Chanonrie

Kirk zaird dyk or being found ony wayis breaking it donn that they sall pay tuenty schillingis.

4th July.—Thomas Nauchty in Dyvellie grein is become cantion for Kathrein Innes his woman that scho sall pay 30s. for the going fra hir mariadge with John Sutherland.

18th July.—Thomas Innes, gairdner in the colledge, summondit, no compeirance Elspet Chalmer declairit scho saw the said Thomas sit on the lytle crose with a stoup and a cap selling drink and casting on them they sittand on ther knyes and mor ouer declairit he releasit Androw Small fra all censure of the kirk, nevertheles of the byschop's intymatioun against the same.

21st July. — Compeirit Thomas Innes, gairdner, for his railing speiches at the lytle crose being summondit and confessit that Androw Small, James Bonyman, Androw Gray —— (blank) Seytoun was present ther with him and lykwyse the said Thomas confessit that he sat on the lytle crose about 3 and 4 in the morning and fillit a quart stoup full of aill, they all sittand on their knies and cast the aill ouer their headis in manner of baptizeing them and gave a lybertie to Androw Small to be receavit in all menis company and said, I release the, Androw Small, fra the bishopis horne and all wther menis horne to be the kingis man and the captain's nenertheles of the bishopis intymatioun out of the pulpit that no man suld receave him in the hous because of his ill lyffe quhill he suld bring a testimoniall of his contrair behaviour vpoun the quhilk the byshope with the consent of the sessioun remited him to the censure of the brethren of the presbetrie and set Thomas Olyphant cautioun to present him on Thursday nixt vnder the paine of xx lib. Ordaines David Wilsone's wyffe to be put to the jogis for hir baning for hir want of a hen and if scho be found in the lyk again banyschment.

Comperit Margaret Law for selling drink to the sojores efter ten houris of evin and is become actit that scho sall not sell any drink therefter so leat under the payne of ten pundis. William Zoung payit 40s. for want of the commands.

23rd July.—Thrittie schillingis ordeanit to gif the sklaiter as drink silver becaus he hes promeist to get sklaitis for the thicking of the queir.

15th August.—James Syme and his wyfe payit 13s 4d for absence fra the kirk on Sonday efternoone. Alexander Russell [and others] ordeant to pay ilk ane of them 20s. for travailing to the mercat on the Sabbath day. Sonday cum aucht dayis to be a publict fast as vse is for the better vinning of the cornes.

25th August.—Ordeans William Gaderer to go with the bell throw the toun to publische a fast on Sonday for the better winning of the frutis of the ground.

8th September.—Allowis 20s to William Gaderer, officer, for his diligence of bringand in the poyndis of the absentis fra the kirk.

Collections in September 3rd, £3; 5th, 4s; 10th, 4s; 12th, 6s; 17th, 51s; 19th, 4s; 26th, 7s.

6th October.—To publische the morne with the bells that Sonday nixt be a day of thanksgiving for the gude succes of the cornes.

27th October.—No sessioun becaus of the buriall of the Laird Duffes being Fryday.

3rd November.—The sext of November the candle to be put in the kirk.

10th November. — Certaine persones of Whytfeild summondit for going to Dolles well to the cheppal superstitioushe, being bot young creatures commit to ward to affray them no to do the lyk againe.

24th November.—Mr Alexander Duff, his horse being arreistit for 50 li. for faylzie of his contract of mariadg twixt him and Jean

Douglas, summondit, compeirs not. Ordeanit to be wardit quhen he beis found in the toun.

William Cumming, cordinar, is ordeanit to stand in the tolbuith for his drunkennes at the examination. Giffin to Emly Robertsone 12s. provyding that scho sall keip the kirk morneing and evening at the prayeris.

28th November. — John Forsythis wyffe purgeit hir selfe be hir oath that scho drew no burne bot ane fraucht to mak redie hir meat.

12th December. — Thomas Russell [and others] to pay 40s. for want of the commands.

17th December.—Communion.

22nd December.—To admonische all personis on Sonday to cease from all excess and ryott in tyme of Zuill vnder the payne of the actis maid theranent.

25th December.—Collectouris on Zule day—Patrick Petindreigh, Alexander Innes. Collectit 27s.

29th December.—Elspet Murdoche ordeanit not to go furth of the kirk befoir the blessing vnder payne of 40s.

1627.

12th January.—Robert Ingland and Thomas Law summondit to this day, callit, nocht compeirit for raiseing of a buriall in the Chanerie Kirk. Certane personis comperit this day who wer gyseing about Zool, they ar ordeanit to stand ane houre at the jogis and lykwyse to ward 24 houris, or else redeime themselves be payment of 20s. Robert Kay to be wardit for playing at the futball throw the toun.

22nd January.—William Coban actit for his man Georg Russell that he sall have the comandis tuixt this and Pasche vnder the paine of 40s.

30th January.—Compeirit certain personis aprehendit at the gouff in tyme of divyne seruice.

13th February.—Androw Annand directed to give tuo schipbrokin men ane merk.

20th February.—Robert Sinklar and Mariorie Watsone payit ilk ane of them halffe a merke for resett of strange beggeris in tyme of publict markatis.

23rd February.—Janet Maver, spous to James Syme, payit 40d for hir being frae the kirk on Tuysday.

2nd Marche.—William Gadderer to wait better on the lle dore on preiching and sessioun dayis becaus of bairnes coming in to break the stone work of the tombe.

16th Marche.—The officeris sworne that they reveiled no wordis that was spokin in the sessionn to James Douglas nor no other in ther name.

23rd March.—Collectit this day being gud Fryday 29s. The said day the Bischop come home.

27th March.—Elspet Mertein and Jonet Reid compeirit for playing on the casa (calsay) at ten houris at evin on a fasting day. Ordeanis them to ward 24 houris, or else redeime themselues be payment off sex schillingis. David Russell payit 20s to Johne Anderson for want of the comandis givin him be William Gaderer.

3rd April.—Thomas Donaldsone quat of his cautiounrie of Androw Geddes for the want of the comandis becaus the said Androw compeirit and said them.

7th April —Compeirit Alexander Gipsone and James Innes for taking jorney to the South on the Sabbath day before the afternonis preitching was begun. They ar ordeanit every ane of them to pay 40s to the puire, and siclyk all utheris breakeris of the said day being apprehendit sall pay the said penalty or greater as the Sessioun sall think meit.

13th April.—James Kinnaird compeirit for not communicating, gave in his excuse that his affairs hinderit him the first tuo days, and being of purpose to have come the last day ther came doun a defluction in his fit that he micht not come. Compeirit Stevin Leslie and

his wyff for not communicating, gave in his excuse that he got boasting wordis fra Georg Donaldsone and that his wyfe was not weill. Siclyke comperit Margaret Hamilton and said scho was not weill, for scho micht neither taste wyne nor ony strong drink in her present state Comperit Issoble Cannon and Jonet Brody, seruant to William Lesly, for ther scalding on the gait on anecommunion Sonday efternone. They ar ordeant to go to the jogis on Seterday before noon, and stand ther betuixt nyne houris and elevin, or else redeime themselves be payment of four merkis.

20th April.—Comperit George Purse and ordeant to pay 40d for his playing at the bouls in tyme of preaching and givin to the officeris

27th April.—Comperit George Robertsone and said he culd not come to the kirk to communicat becaus he had not haill clothes. James Stronoche payit 6s 8d for drinking in tym of preiching.

8th May.—Ordeanis ane elder to visite throw the toun vpon the Tysday becaus of the rare convention of the touns folks that ther be no buiths open in tyme of sermon.

12th June.—William Geddes payit auchtein schillingis for vant of the commands befoire his mariadge.

15th June.—The officers ar ordeant to commit William Nauchtie to ward till he pay 20s for the reset off a banischeit woman callit Agnes Watt.

3rd July.—John Man in Blakhillis payit 24s for the vant of the commandis befor his mariadge.

13th July.—Elspet Russell and Margaret Nicoll for calling each other witches ordeanit to stand at the joggis twixt nyne houris and elevin or else releive themselffis be payment of 40s. Alexander Innes, cordinar, payit 40s for Androw Donaldsone his man for vant of the commands befor his mariadge, for the quhilk Alexander became cautioner.

15th July.—James Law hes gottin Hallowmes to pay aucht punds betuixt the dait heiroff and that tyme for the gras of the Channerie kirk zaird in this present zeir and lykvyse he is obleist to vphold the dykis theroff.

27th July. Comperit John Hosak, a litle boy for breaking a ladis head on the Sabbath day, wherfor it is ordeanit than ane of the officeris have him to the tolbuith and belt him for his fault.

3rd August. — Compeirit Issoble Car, seruitrix to William Lesly, summondit to this day being delait to the session for going supersticiously to a vell at Spey syde, confessit scho zeid out of the toun about aucht of cloke at night and sex in her company, viz Katrein Dunbar, Agnes Lesly, Agnes Grant, Jonet Gordon, Elspet Hay. Scho saw their Margaret Caddell with James Caddell his woman callit Margaret Slytter and Alexander Troup. All these confessit be ther avne depositionn that the kneillit about the Chappell and drank of the water except Alexander Troup, he did not kneill bot he drank of the vater and the rest moveit him so to do.

10th August.—Johne Man and Alexander Schand they have delait these personis efter following for being at the vell at Speyside supersticiouslie inclyneit: Beatrix Cuy, Margaret Innes, Jonet Schand, Robert Malice, Elspet Schoche, Jean Schoche, Meikle Thomas Watsone, Jonet Byris, —— Forteith in Achtertyre. The said John Man and Alexander Schand are ordeant *apud acta* to present them being warneit vnder payne of 40 lib. and they have gotten till efter the harvest till present them, having earnestly desyreit the samein. Compeirit the gudvyffe of Arcany being suspect to have bein at the vell and cleirit hir selffe be hir oath as scho suld ansuer to God scho said scho was not ther at all bot scho rode by it about 12 zeirs

ago and said scho was also willing to keip the kirk as any voman quhatsumever.

14th August.—It is ordanit that every elder admonische their quarters severallie becaus of the raire conventioun of the Tuysdayis preiching that quhosoever sall have ane buith dore opine in tyme of dyvyne service salbe poyndit in halffe a merk.

11th September.—William Innes in Pluscarty and John Inche there ordanit to pay 20s for their working on the Sabbath day the ane setting on a mill the other for spreding of muck and actit not to do the lyk againe vnder payne of 5 lib. ilk ane.

14th September.—Margaret Measone and Margaret Chrysty for scolding on the calsay ar ordaint to go to the jogis the morne tuixt ten and twell houris.

Robert Chamber said Androw Man was lyker a theiffis geit (geit, a contemptuous name for a child) then get a blind sueinscheor (sweyngeour, a drone or sluggard).

23rd October.—All these that zeid to the vell at Speyside and vseis any kynd off superstitious rites as kneilling about the cheppel, praying to our Ladie and drinking off the vater of the vell, they ar ordanit to stand thrie Sabbath dayis at the piller in tyme off divyne service barefoote and in sackclothe and that they furnische the said sackclothe to themselvis and by and attour that they pay 40s of their guidis to the pure and suche as vold redeim themselvis ar ordanit to pay ten merkis money and actit themselvis vnder the payne off tuentie pundis never to vse any more suche superstitious rites ever heirefter. Alexander Troup ordanit to pay 40s. He denyit that he did kneill bot zaid of intent to sie who was there and tuik a drink of the water and thrist compellit him so to do.

2nd November.—Mr Dauid is ordeant to go with the provest to the Ladie Latheris to advertise hir to keip vaterticht the south ile

of the kirk. Elspet Hay, Agnes Grant, Jonet Gordoun, Issoble Car receavit fra the piller for going to the cheppell at Speysyde.

20th November.—Margaret Varrand confessit hir going to the cheppell, deponit she saw there Jonet Duncan [and six others]

2nd December.—Convenit the minister and elderis, the bischope off Aberdein heir the said day.

7th December —William Gadderer, kirk officer, ordeant to go throw the toun with the bell to intymate that no persone by nor sell the morne fra ane efternoone furth bot that they attend the preparatioun sermoun gainst Sonday nixt.

14th December.—The magistrats to visite and that all cease from vork be ane efternoone and attend the sermon.

18th December.—Jonet Moreis and Agnes Vatt ar both ordeant to be banischit with the bell and whosoever salbe found to receave any off them in ther housis sall pay ten pundis.

21st December.—To publische on Sonday that no abuse nor ryoting he found in thir solemne dayis of Zuile vnder the paine containd in the actis.

1628.

15th January.—Alexander Alschinder gave in a bill of complaint against Jonet Philp wher the said Jonet callit him common theiff. The bill was provin wherfor scho is decernit to stand at the pillar with a paper on hir head for the said sclander.

22nd January. - Barbara Rose in Elgin is actit if scho beis found banning on the streitis scho sall pay 20s. Robert Hardy payit fyve merk for Agnes Lesly hir going to the cheppell well. Alexander Schand ordeant to pay fyve merks for his wyff for going to the cheppell or else present hir to the piller. Robert Gordon cautioner for Martha Innes that scho sall pay 40s. or go to the piller for hir going to the cheppell.

3rd February.—A seat grantit to the Ladie Duffus before hir dask.

8th February.—Comperit Robert Chalmber for callin leadis to the mill on the Sabbath day, he is ordeant to pay 2 merks and to sit in his seat on Sonday vnder the loft and answer when the minister calleth and crave the congregatioun mercie for his fault of the break of the Sabbath.

10th February.—Alexander Petry payit ten merkis for James Caddellis dochter for hir going to the cheppell.

22nd February.—Georg Imloche, vricht, is ordanit to get ten merkis fra Mr Dauid Philp for making ane bear (bier) to the pur folkis.

29th February. — Margaret Bonyman ordeant to be present at the presbetrie on Thursday to swear and subscryve the articles. William Layng to keip the pure of the streits.

14th March.—William Archibald confessit a bill of sclander gainst William Coban that he callit him tarvaill (tarveal, fretful, *Jamieson)* Wm. Archibald to go to the piller and stand their with the mytter on his head.

16th March.—David Soutter and William Nicoll ordeant to stand at the piller on Sonday nixt barefute and pay 40s ilk ane of them for breaking of the Sabbath in threshing in a barne.

1st April.—Elspet Annand [and three other women] ordeant to pay 40s. or else publicly in the kirk on Sonday stand vp befor the bischop and confes ther fault of the break of the Sabbath in drinking the tyme of the efternoonis preaching. Payit.

4th April.—This day aucht dayis quhilk is gude Fryday befor Pasche to be a day off preiching lykvyse Seterday therefter the preparation sermon to the Communion.

29th April.—Patrik Neill payit 20s. for his bairnes buirall in the kirk. Andrew Annand to gif sex schillingis, quhilk John Elgin hade, to a puire bairne, John Strachan, quho is

heavily deceasit, for they think that John Elgin may now seik for his avne meat.

9th May.—James Law, herauld, gaif in a complaint vpoun sundry people in the colledge who puts in ther nolt and scheip in the churche zarde to pasture ther and maironer they vse prophane games therin to the great abuse off the said place wherfore heirefter ilk persone or persones that sall be found abuseing the said place to any lascivious vse or if ther gudis be fund therin they sall be censureit accordinglie, being complanit on be ony elder. William Gadderer, kirk officer, is ordeant to go throw the toun with the bell intymating to ilk persone quho salbe found in the Chanerie Kirk zaird, danceing or louping or futeballing they sall pay a merk *toties quoties.* The pure of the role to be sichtit to sie who is meit to be taine in and who to pute out.

16th May.—Marjory Gray spous to Thomas Scheipheard in Manbeans and Jonet Hay there for sclander twixt them selffis in calling others vitche ar ordeant to go presently to ward and ther remane till the morne at nyne houris at quhilk tyme they shall go to the jogis and ther stay 2 houris for ther sclandering of otheris.

22nd May.—Dauid Murray, maister of the musick schoole and reider at Elgin, ratified promise of marriadge to Jonet Grant in the in the paroche of Spynnie, laufull dochter to umquhill Grigor Grant of Gartinmore and set John Mill in Elgin cautioun for performance vnder paine of 1c. pundis.

22rd May.—To intymate from the pulpit on Sonday that no men or women seruantis be found furth out of ther masteris houses efter nyne houris at nicht without a laufull eirand and especially vpon the Sabbath day and that under paine of the hardest censures of the kirk.

3rd June.—Walter Innes to keip the kirk fra this furth vnder the paine of 20s. ilk day

according to the act of Parliament without he be found to have ane relevant excuse. John Reid and his vyffe are ordeant to stand at the piller for being out of the kirk on ane day of publick fast efternoone in ane hostadge drinking and lykvyse John Forsythis vyffe for reset of them and giveing them drink.

22nd June. — James Layng and James Jonston to give their oath of veritie at quhat tyme they sall know any horse in the channerie kirkyard that they sall reveill the same to the sessioun.

18th July.—John Rait payit 20s. for vant of the commands before his mariadge.

8th August.—The pure to be sichted that the veak be inroleit to receave of ther alms and the strong to be put out.

5th September.—Compeirt Christan Gordoun and Jonet Abernethie hir dochter and prohibite to tak any bairnes to teach within this toun, ordeant be the presbetrie and the authoritie of this seat to decist therfra vnder the pains of the censures of the kirk.

September 28.—Receavit from James Law 450 merkis of silver pertaining to the hospitall and delyverit to Nicolas Dunbar in his hand. John Purse sones to be summoned for fischeing on the vater in tyme of dyvine service.

Collections : September 7th, £3 9s ; 9th, 5s ; 14th, 57s ; 16th, 4s 8d ; 21st, 39s ; 23rd, 4s 4d ; 28th, 40s.

21st October.—Compeirt James Jonstoun and James Layng and ar ordanit vnder all hiest paine that they raise nocht an stane that hes bein vpon ancient burialls to gif to any to put above ther corpes and that they keip the kirk and kirkzaird frie of all bestiall to remane within them othervayis they salbe censured. It is ordanit that no inhabitant within this burghe tak vpon them to set houses to any strangeris specially to single vomen without that first he advertise an elder of the quarter and that they bring the

testimoniall wherefra they came and that vnder paine of loseing of their hous aneall.

18th November. — It is ordanit be the minister and elders that it be intymat on Sonday nixt that no buithe dore be found opine in tyme of the Tysdayis sermone.

25th November.—Alexander Lesly gave in a complaint against Marjory Forbes and her woman, Agnes Smyth, for being from the kirk in tyme of divyne serniice and also that they steall his keel and his peits wherefor they are ordeant both to go to the joggis, his voman to be banisched on Setterday nixt, bot hir selff, be his avne consent, in hope scho will nocht do such lyke againe is relaxit from vard.

28th November.—Ordanis Walter Innes to be summondit for to present his two cotteris for the burial of a bairne out of the kirkzaird.

5th December. — 500 merkis off money belonging to the hospitall given out upon band to John Innes of Leuchars, principall, and Robert Gipsone of Linkvoode as cautioner.

1629.

9th January.—Alexander Gregar, sadler, is ordeant for his neglect of the communion to pay two merkis to William Layng and if he sall be fond absent againe he sall pay pay ten pundis.

17th February.—Margaret Hamiltoun scho said that scho vold keip the kirk, but scho vold nocht communicat. The Session thinkis gude that scho be advyseit with the articles, and therefter if scho conforme nocht to hear and communicat scho salbe processit and no more curtesie schowit vnto hir.

20th February.—To intimate the examination of the landvart to be ilk Tysday, Wedinsday, Thursday, Fryday at the ringing of the bell at ane efternoone, and that they compeir every houshold as they salbe varned vnder the pains of the actis. Alexander Anderson confessit his fault of rasche speiches

gainst George Scherar how that he was nocht his avne man when he spak them.

Mr Gavin Douglas, Provost. At Kirk Session meeting sometimes present bishop, minister, and elders.

24th March.—Issoble Car, seruant to Mr David Philp, minister, for hir byding out of hir master's hous vnder silence of nicht efter ten houris at nicht scho is vardit 24 houris and sall pay 20s if scho be found to do the lyk again, and vardit also.

31st March.—The minister and a elder is ordeant to go till Andrew Steuart, alias Vandring Knicht, and advertise him that he liue ordinatlie and behave himselff discreitlie othervyse that he remove himselff of this toun.

5th Apryll.—Pasche day. The Communion celebrat be the Bischope.

10th Apryll.—The officeris are ordanit to aprehend William Cuke, messenger, and commit him to vard or else they salbe vardit for him.

17th Apryll.—It is statute and ordeant be the elderis of the Session that whoever sall burie within the Channerie Kirk without leave askit and givin from the seat that ilk persone sall pay 40s and ilk bairne 20s for to help the pure.

24th Apryll.—Johne Purse for making a grave at his avne hand to Alexander Tarres bairne payit 8s, and givin to Lang Androw to help him.

5th May.—John Innes, sone to Androw Innes, for dinging his mother is ordeant to be vardit and puttin to the joggis.

8th May.—Archibald Grant, appeirand of Kinnermony, ratified promise of mariage to Issoble Gordoun, laufull dochter to vmquhill John Gordoun of Leichestoun.

1st June. — William Grant of Kirdailis ratified promise of mariage to Jean Steuart, lauchfull dochter to ane noble Lord, James, Lord of Sant Combe.

"This volum contains the proceedings in

Session from June 14th 1629 to May 24th 1640 inclusive under the ministry of Mr John Guthrie, minister of Edinburgh, made Bishop of Moray in 1623. Mr David Philp, minister at Elgin who dyed 1632. Dr Johne Gordon, minister at Elgin, admitted anno 1632 (1633?) and deposed by the Synod of Moray in May 1639 and the said bishop being deposed by the General Assembly 1638 the church of Elgin continued without a minister till the 24th day of September 1640, which day Mr Gilbert Ross was admitted minister at Elgin."

14th June.—Girsell Hepburne at the piller and confessit hir fault in brewing aill vpon the Sabbath day and craved God and the congregation pardoun for hir offence.

19th June.—Alexander Troup, sadler, and Alexander Innes, Doulie, are admonisched for sitting in the visitoures seat and give they sit there againe, except they be visitouris sall pay ilk ane halfe a merk. George Donaldsone to pay ten merkis if he deforce the officers againe. William Vilsone, for reset of men's servantis vnder nicht upon the Sabbath day is ordanit to vard till nicht and pay a merk. William Lesly is ordanit to persew his decreit of remoueing against Margaret Gordoun, ane excommunicat persone, that scho get not hous nor harberie within this burghe.

23rd June.—Katrein Norie for cursing Alexander Stronoche, he being diseasit, suspectit the said Katrein of his disease throw hir great curseing of him. He requyred hir oath whether or no scho curseit him villinglie or for what cause, bot the Sessioun thought that the pairtie is nocht holdin to sueare to hir avne hinderance in any actioun against hirselffe, bot scho villinglie sayis that scho sall go home to his hous and say before him that ony ill scho vold haue cuming vpon him that it returne back upon hir selffe, schowing that scho bearis no ill vill touardis him.

26th June.—James Law payit ten merkis for the last yeiris grase of the Channerie Kirkzaird

30th June.—Marjory Winster for deforceing the officer is ordanit to go to vard till scho set cautioun to pay 40s for her disobedience. Ordanis to give the Frensche minister fyve merkis.

14th July.—Alexander Gilzean, for byding fra the eftirnonis sermoun on Sonday last is ordeant to pay 20s.

17th July.—To summond Patrick Gow, taylzeour, for trouting on the Sabath day. William Gaderer is ordanit to tak the clothes fra the voman in the beid hous, and that they be furthcumand to the puire.

21st July. — Compeirt Kathrein Steuart, spous to John Andersone of this burghe, and confessit hir going to the well at Speyside. Isoble Cannon was with hir and Agnes Grant. Referis their censure to a fuller Sessioun.

28th July.—James Layng and James Johnstoun being complained on be a pure man who hade nothing to give them for making of his bairns buriall, they are ordeant to tak nothing fra such persones, bot the Sessioun sall pay them therfor, and give suche lyk compleant cum to our ears againe vpon any of them they salbe depryved of ther office.

31st July.—William Gaderer hes intrometit with nyne elnes of linning cloth left be a voman in the hospitall. He is ordeant to mak a furthcumand according to the Session's will.

4th August.—James Bonyman and Jonet Yong, his spous, summondit for nocht keiping the Sabbath day.

18th August.—Tosumond Alexander Nachty (and three others) for seting on the mill vpon Sonday last.

21st August.—George Innes, skinner, is ordeant to present his man who was suspect of the break of the Sabbath in carieing laids upon horse. Siclyk Nicoll Jamesone for laying on laids upon Sonday last at seven houris.

Siclyk Robert Gordoun for sending his men with laids vpon the Sabbath to summond them all. Andrew Annand tuke Tysday nixt to present the millers of the ald mills for putting on ther mills vpon the Sabbath day.

28th August.—John Intsche confessit his valk mill to be ganging upon the Sabbath day wherefore he is ordaint to pay fyve pundis. Alexander Nicoll confessit the samen and censureit to pay 5 li.

4th September.—George Scherar confessit the samen and is ordeant to pay 5 li.

11th September.—Compeirt Cristan Nauchty and confessit scho was three seuerall tymes away, ilk tyme aucht dayis away, and scho was taine away with a wind and knew no man bot Johne Mowtra and ane Packman quho wer dead long ago, and that they two strak her. Scho confessit ther wer ma in hir cumpany quhom scho kend, no aboue ane hundreth. Their faces seimed whyt and as lame [earthenware] but ther backis were bos lyk fidles.

18th September.—Nicoll Jamesone payit 40d. for laying on of laids on Sonday befor the sone ryseing.

22nd September.—Alexander Catenoche, miller at Bogesyde, to pay 40s. for setting of his mill before the sone ryseing upon the Sabbath day.

2nd October.—James Brander, miller at Langmore, and James Chalmer, miller at Blackhills, purgeit themselffis that their mills zeid not vpon Sonday. The elders nominat for the year incuming. James Gordon, miller at Mostowy to pay 40s. for the ganging of his mill upon the Sabbath day.

20th October.—This nicht William Gaderer is ordeant to begin and give candle to the kirk sex candle ilk nicht.

27th October.—It is ordaint that there be two wisitoris to wisite vpon the Tysday becaus ther is such rare conventioun of the people to the sermon that there be no buith doris found opin in tyme of sermon, but that

they resort to the kirk vnder paine of the actis of the kirk. Patrick Neill for troubleing the tonn vnder nicht in the ailhous after ten houris to pay a merk. Jonet Cuming and Helen Andersone for ther turbulant speiches vnder silence of nicht in the ailhous to pay 4s. and ward till nicht.

30th October.—The people of Blakhills ar ordeant to keip the kirk better vnder paine of 20s. Agnes Tronp ordeant to be banischt throw the toun and give scho beis found heir againe scho salbe brnnt vpon the cheik and dowkit. Patrik Wysman to go to the chantor to the parosche of Alves and ther satisfie for his fault. James Layng is ordeant for taking a kist out of a bairnes grave and giving it to another sall ward 48 hours, and if he do the lyk againe he salbe banischt and never beir office within this burgh.

6th November.—Ilk two officers day about ar ordaint to tak two elderis with them and wisite on Tysday.

10th November.—William Cuy to cum in gainst this day eight dayis and say the commandis and pay 20s. for want of them befor his mariadge.

20th December.—Intymationn made that ther be no gyseing nor any other suipersticious rites be vsed about the Zule tyme nnder the payne conteynd in the actis.

1630.

22nd January.—Alexander Innes, "Doucie," purgit himselff be his oath that he was frie of any gyseing about Zule. William Sutherland confessit himselff to have been gyseing in womenis habite about the Zule tyme. To pay 40s. Alexander Innes, litster, confessit gyseing with a false beard at Zule tyme. Ordeant to pay 20s. Comperit John Angus for the break of promise of mariage to Katrein Innes with whom he was contracted. Ordeans him to pay 30s. to the pure and 20s to the

woman partlie becaus scho alledgis scho deburseit no les on ther contract.

24th January.—George Gordon and his wyff Marjory Bonyman loused fra ther excommunication be Mr David Philp minister of Elgin.

29th January.—Alexander Troup, saidler, for his gyseing about Zuill is ordenit to pay 40s.

2nd February —Issoble Hardie, who was contracted with John Andersone, becaus scho is gon back fra her promise is ordeant to pay two merkis and ward 24 houris. William Robertsone, sone lawfull to John Robertson, was delait as a gyser. He is admonished be the minister give he beis found in any louse misbehaviour heirefter he salbe strictlie censured.

4th February.—Androw Stronoche, portioner of Finfan within the paroschein of Urquhart, ratified promise of mariage to Jonet Syme, dochter to umquhill James Syme, burges of Elgin.

12th February.—To intymate the examinatiounis for the landvert to begin the nixt oulk ilk day at ane efternoone at the ringing of the bell. James Taylzeour for louseing of the promise of his contract with Jonet Dasone is decernit to pay tuo merkis.

16th February.—John Angus, for break of promise of marriage to Jonet Dasone is decernit to pay 50s. to the pure. Issoble Hardie for her break of promise of mariage to John Andersone is decernit to pay 20s. The session refuse to contract, till farther advysement with the presbeterie, Alexander Kemp with Marjory Scheipheard becaus it is bot aucht dayis sen his wyf died.

19th February.—The session have taine bot 20s fra Alexander Troup for his gyseing at Zule, becaus he was never found in the lyk before.

23rd February.—It is ordeant that ilk aue of the officeris oulk about attend vpoun the

fische mercat that their be no bying nor selling of fisch in tyme of prayeris or preaching.

25th February.—Helen Tarres is ordeant to be put to the joggis the morne in tyme of the mercat for sclandering of Christie Murray.

5th March.—Sonday cum aucht dayis to be a day of fast before the Communion.

21st March.—First day of Communion.

26th March.—Gude Fryday.

27th March —The preparation sermon.

28th March.—Pasche day, second day of Communion.

4th April.—Last day of Communion.

4th May.—It is ordanit that no persone whatsumeuer sall get the benefite of mariage except they keip the preiching or prayeris for such publict affairs befor they receiv the benefite and that they wait on to attend the tyme and that wnder payne of 40s and mair as the persones ar of worth.

14th May.—William Layng, kirk thesaurer, wndertakes to pay ten merkis zeirly for the grase of the Channery Kirkzaird and caus hold up the dykis so that no kind of bestiall be found within it wnder payne off 2/s the head.

28th May.—Ordanis William Layng as takisman of the Channery Kirkzaird to summond Archibald Law or otheris quhom he suspectis to eat the grase of the said zaird to the Consistorie and thair get out the extract of the act maid theranent, that order may be tane therwith as accordis.

1st June.—Christan Hosak, spous to Walter Smyth, is decernit to pay halfe a mark for hir loud speiches in the kirk in tyme of divyne seruice.

2nd July.—Agnes Montra and Agnes Corsar, hir dochter, ordanis them both to be brocht in and put to the joggis for their sclander and their banning and curseing on Seterday nixt. Walter Innes, apearand of Mayne, ratified promise of mariage to Margaret Sutherland, relict of umquhill —

Schischolme of Straglase. James Sutherland, son to umquhill James Sutherland of Kinstarie, ratified promise of marriage to Barbara Innes dochter to William Innes of Mayne. Katrein Cramond in Elgin who on 10th April ratified a promise of marriage to Andrew Russell in Alves is now to marry Thomas Spence.

16th June.—Georg Purse, James M'Waty, Alexander Fumester for ther playing at the futeball on the Sabboth nixt at evin throw the calsa ar ordeant ilk ane of them to pay 6s 8d. Comperit Robert Ingland and confessit he cast a slap of the Channery Kirkzaird dyke at his maister's comand and put in four horse therin contraveiuing the actis of the session quhilk is 20s ilk beast.

20th July.—No sessioun nor preaching becans all the town was at the puting of the centries of the bridge.

27th July.—No session becaus of the mercat Sant James day.

30th July.—Compeirit Margaret Andersone and being askit quhy scho stayit out of the kirk from the efternoones sermon scho ansuered scho got little edificatioun in the forenoone.

18th August.—James Innes of Cottis ratified promise of marriage to Christen Douglas, dochter to umquhill William Douglas of Pendreigh.

24th August.—No session for the bridge.

31st August.—Katrein Cuming and Marioun Winster for sclandering each other ar ordeant ilk ane of them to pay ten poundis to the pure or else stand in sackcloth at the piller barefute and mak ther repentance with the mytter on ther head. The penalties are paid.

21st September.—Thomas Innes spake out of his passion before the Session rapeing his hand upon the burd saying (be the wounds of God) quho culd have delait him to the Sessioun. He is commit till vard till he pay ten marks to the pure and also to stand at the piller with sackcloth and barefute and cum

before the pulpit and confess his fault in taking the wounds of the Lord in his mouth.

1st October.—Christan Anderson for selling aill to Issoble Ker in tyme of divyne service efternoone is ordeant to pay 20s to the pure. Issoble Ker for byding from the kirk and bying aill in tyme of sermone to pay 20s.

5th November.—20 merks to be given for auchtein trees to the porche dore.

3rd December.—William Wilsone for sewing schone vpon the Sabbath day of the morning is ordanit to ward till evin and payit halff merk and giffin the to officeris

14th December.—Jean Bonyman, Helen Petry, Jean Geddes, Jean Robertsone, Marjory Cumming, Agnes Thomesone ar all admonisht for their being from the Tysdayis sermone and being in the fische mercat in tyme of devyne service ar acted not to do the lyk againe vnder payne of censure.

19th December.—Sermon publischt to be on Zule day 25th day.

21st December.—Collected at the Tysdayis sermone 4s.

31st December.—Comperit Alexander Innes, cordiner, and confessit to have dung Robert Innes' woman, Jonet Murray, vpoun the Sabbath day to the effusioun of hir blude. To vnderly a censure the nixt dyet.

1631.

2nd January.—It is publisched that no inhabitant be reset in any ostadge within the toun efter ten houris at nicht nor that any taverner sell ether wyne, aill or bear to any persoun except in case of necessitie and that vnder payne of the actis of the kirk and all hiest censure.

28th January—Elspet Thayne, seruant to George Kay, for neglecting hir mrs hous wpon Sonday efternoone is ordanit to ward till nicht.

27th February.—The landuart examinatiouns intymate; lykwyse they ar exhorted to prepare sum support for the distressed estate of the church of the Palatinate.

4th March.—The kirk penalties in the treasurer's compts amount to £257.

[Gavin Douglas, provost].

27th March.—Collected for the kirk of the Palatinate this day 23 lib. 1s.

12th April. — Comperit Issoble Layng, Thomas Jains, Jonet Tarres—Tarres, delait being dancing the last Sabbath at nicht so publikly. They ar all comit to ward till 48 houris or else releive themselves be payment of halff a merk.

17th April.—Collected for the Palatinate 3 libs 1s. 6d.

13th May.—William Wanes admonischt for goeing to the wode and promeist be Godis grace not to doe the lyk againe ether to cut it nor zit for any other ill intentioun.

20th May.—Marjory Gardyne and Marjory Stevin commit to ward for ther danceing openly wpon the streit on the Sabbath day.

17th June.—The magistrats wisits on Sonday nixt being a fasting day.

21st June.—Johne Gregor and his wyff in respect of ther wariance ar desyrd to live separate for a tyme till it please God to move ther hearts to liue more quyet with other and ilk ane of them ar ordeant to live wpoun ther avne means severally.

27th June.—Thomas Junkyne payit auchtein schillingis for want of the comandements befor his mariage and is acted to have them gainst this day fourtein dayis wnder payne of 40s. John Gregor's wyff is ordeant to give him back his bedclothes and quhatsumever else perteined to him befor ther mariage so long as they live separet.

[The names of the visitors are entered regularly in the minutes thus—"8th July. Wisitours—Alexander Olyphant Pa. Cham-

ber. *West*—George Innes, William M'Kinzie. *Collectours* — Alexander Wrquhart, William Zeoman."]

22nd July.—Compeirt Helen Chamber, spous to William Tarres, elder, in the Colledge, James Johnstonn ther, James Mitchell ther, Thomas Muresone, induellers in the colledge, for letting ther scheip pasture in the Channery Kirkzaird, quhilk nane of them culd deny. Ilk ane of them is ordeant to pay tuenty schillingis and to set cantionn for the same and for surety in all tyme cuming not to do the lyke and suche as hes not to pay ar ordanit therfore to build wp the broken places of the kirkyard dyke.

19th August.—George Innes wyff onlaved in 20s for selling aill on Sonday in tyme of divyne serwice Alexander Innes onlaved in 20s for his drinking in tyme of divyne serwice.

23rd August.—Margaret Anderson sclanders Jean Bonyman by saying: "Let hir nener die till scho zeid about lyk Schakmaschitache and Claschmabandoche." Scho sall stand at the piller on Sonday befor noone with sackclothe about hir and the mytre upon hir head conteining hir sclanderous wordis and to crave hir and the congregation pardoun.

28th September.—Comperit Johne Russell in Pluscarden and compleanit heavily wpoun Elspet Watsone (quha vas in ward) that the said Elspet being vseing a charme upon a seik bairne of Agnes Donaldsones there and his dochter being the first that cam in vponn hir and met hir and that the said Elspet said to her that the bairn's seiknes would licht upoun hir, becaus scho was the first that cam in at the dore, the treuth wheroff he tuke him to proue be witnesses. His dochter therefter taking bed died and left her dead vpoun the said Elspet Watsone, according as scho hade spokine to hir before. Jonet Innes deponit that scho cuming to wisite Bessy Russell heard hir mother say to hir "Wold scho lay hir dead upon Elspet Watsone" and scho said

"Indeed wold scho." Jonet Thomesone deponit Bessy Russell said that Elspet Watsone sould haue said to hir the seiknes of the bairne wold licht upon her in respect scho was the first that came in and Elspet Watsone being present said to her "Wold scho go to dead with that" and scho ansuered 'Be God wold scho.' Agnes Donaldsone deponed that Elspet Watsone brunt the strae of the cradle that was in the four nukis theroff upon a kard broad and went out with it and blew it off and did so the nixt day, but scho hard not Elspet Watsone say that the seiknes wold licht upon Bessy Russell.

4th October.—The matter betwixt Russell and Watsone is referred to the presbytery. Ordains a candle to be lichtit ilk day in the kirk at fyve hours in the morning and candle to begin at nicht to the prayeris sex every nicht.

[The following entry is quoted in full for the purpose of showing the number, the names, and the period of office of elders and deacons in early times.]

23rd October.—The elders to bear office for this next zeir insueing ar nominat, admited and sworne. Their names ar these: *South-west*—Mr John Hay, pronest, John Mill, bailzie, William Innes, Archibald Dunbar, Johne Andersone *South-east*—Alexr. Lesly, bailzie, James Douglas, Androw Waus, Alexander Gipsone. *North west*—William Torry, bailzie, Mr Gawen Douglas, John Robertsone, Nicolas Dunbar. *North-east* — Robert Hardie, bailzie William Falconer, Alexander Petry, Patreik Chamber. *For the colledge*—Johne Lesly, William Layng. *Ald Milns*—Alexander Innes, indueller ther, Alexander Russell, younger. *For the landvart*—James Innes of Blakhills, John Man, Alexander Schand for Blakhills, Thornehill, Clakmarres and Langmorne. Androw Dick for Easter and Wester Quhytwreaths and

Glasgrein. William Innes of Mayne for Mayne and Aikinhead. William Innes in Bogesyde and William Mortimer, elder, for Bogesyde, the Haughe and Ouer Manbeans. Alexander Russell, elder, for Nether Manbeans. James Russell for Divelly Grein and Broomehill. William Russell, younger, and Thomas Spence for Pendreigh and Inner Lochty. James Gordoun for Mostowy, Jerome Spence for Auld Innerlochty and Quhytfeild, James Farquharsone for Easter Kelles, Patreik Dunbar of Westertoun and William Innes, elder, for Westertoun, Redevie, Inschellen and Drinking Hill. Archibald Dunbar for Barnehill, Whytruis, the hill, and Nether Byre. William Farquharsone and Gaven Petry for Forsterseat, Inschernoche, Corsley and Auchtertyre. John Sutherland for Boghead and the Dogs of Elgin.

Deacons for wisitatioun of the seik: *West*—William M'Kenzie, John Chamber, Alexander Russell, yr. *East*—William Coban, Alexander Gilzean, George Baxster.

7th December. — Agnes Dunbar to be wardit, put to the jogis, her head to be schevin and then banischit off the toun.

[The Communion now held twice a year, viz., at Pasch and Christmas. The Sunday before the Communion a day of fast.]

9th December.—To publische the fast the morne with the bell. The magistrats to wisite through the toun.

11th December.—Collected (a fasting day) 46s.

16th December.—Ordeans the bell to go through the toun to publische that the morne all cease from ther labours and resort to the preparation sermon. The magistrats are ordeant to wisite the morne.

17th December.—Collected at the preparation sermon 22s Ordeant to serue the tables the morne John Mill (and three others) morneing. At the forenoon seruice Nicolas Dunbar (and three others).

18th December.—This day the communion is celebrate tuo tymes in the morneing and in the forenoone. Collected to the pure sextein merks.

23rd December.—To publische that there be no gyseing on the streits nor ryot nor any other publict or private offence about this Zule tyme under paine of the actis.

27th December.—No sessioun becaus of the buriall of Clyne.

1632.

13th January.—James Rose for not communicating is ordeant to pay 40s. or else ward aucht dayis. The brethren of the presbetrie hes ordeant Elspet Watsone quho was provine ane charmer to mak hir repentance at the piller in sackclothe and confes hir fault there before the congregation, acted under paine of banischement to mak her repentance and not to charme any more heirefter.

20th January.—To intymate the Tysdayis sermone to be keipt better be the maisters of families and that no buthe doris be opine in time of preaching wnder payne of the actes.

23rd January.—Intymate with the bell that all cease from work the morne (Saturday) fra ane efternoone and go to the preparation sermon.

27th April.—Jonet Warden, elder, is ordeant to stand at the piller with the mytre on hir head for calling George Dunbar 'debtit dyvour.'

1st June.—Helen Tarres for the reset of men's servantis wnder nicht keiping them from ther masters' seruice &c to be put to the jogis the morne tuixt aucht houris and nyne and therefter to be banischt of the toun with sound of drum.

19th June.—Johne Packman for bringing in fische vpoun the Sabbath day and selling them is put to ward till he pay 20s. for break of the Sabbath.

13th July.—Compeirt William Adame for his uncumlie behaviour in the kirk efter a certaine mariage in ther preasing to be first at the dore. He is censured to pay halff merk and acted not to do the lyk agayne.

25th September.—Thomas Mitchell, fleschar, for slaeing flesch vpon the Sabboth day is ordeant to pay 20s. to the pure, ward 48 houris and acted not to do the lyk againe. Isso le Cannoun ordeant to be doukit, kartit throw the toun and therefter to be banischt of this toun for ever.

[4th November.—A new election of elders. Changes not numerous.]

23rd December.—The said day my Lord Bischope intymate from the pulpit that the toun wold provyde themselves a minister becaus the man quhom he presented they hade rejected although he was found qualified be the brethren of the presbetry and seeing effairs of the kirk callit him south advertised them that giff they wanted preiching it was in ther avne default. Androw Clerk hes payed 20s. for his bairn's lair in the Channery Kirk.

1633.

16th Jannary.—George Cuming, son to George Cuming in Lochnavandiche ratified promise of mariage to Marjory Leslie, daughter to William Leslie, bailzie, burgis of Elgin.

22nd January.—William Thow is becum acted to keip the kirk sabothlie, health seruing, wnder the paine of 20s. ilk Sabboth.

25th January.—Comperit Elspet Russell [and nine others] and ar all acted to keip the kirk except excuse lawfully being admitted and that wnder the paine of being wardit thrie dayis in the Leach tolbuith and there to remaine wpon bread and watter.

29th January.—Jean Man [and six others] similarly acted.

3rd February.—Convenit the moderator and elderis. The chantour preiched.

12th February. — Alexander Allane for threshing upon the Saboth day to pay halff a merk. Margaret Yong is acted not to speak any sclanderous wordis to Thomas Donaldsone wnder paine of standing in the mytre and heerie cloth according to the act of sclander.

[No meetings are now held by the elders alone. The Moderator is always present.]

8th Marche.—John Symesone and Isoble Warrand ar acted to hane the commandementis against this day 15 dayis wnder paine of 40s.

31st Marche.—Convenit my Lord Bischope and haill elders in Sessionn. Mr Johne Gordoun, minister at Kineduart is admitted be the bischope to be minister at Elgin.

20th Apryll.—Delyverit the said day be Christan Car, relict of vmquhill Mr Dauid Philp the two comunioun cupes with tuo table clothis and two couer clothis.

5th May.—The third day of communioun.

10th May.—Compeirt James Layng and James Johnestoun being summondit to this day and is ordeant that if they sall let in any cattell beast or horse within the kirkyaird of the Channery Kirk in that case they sould pay halff a merk for ilk head by and attour that quhilk the avners pay, and if it be found that they have lifted any laire stanes in the kirk or churchzaird they salbe censured accordingly.

14th May.—Compeirt Johne Chalmber, skinner, and hes tane the grass of the Channerie Kirkzarde for a zeir and is bund and obleist that na beast cum within it to eat it but that it be schorne to them and euerie beast that he may proue to be in it sall pay halff merk.

21st May.—Compeirt Alexander Richardsone, George Broun and Androw Martein, brousteris in the Old Milles for break of the Saboth in selling aill in tyme of divyne seruice wherfor ar ordeant to stand at the

piller on Sonday nixt and ther confes their fault with a promeis of amendement, as also to pay halfe a merk. Marjorie Johnestoun ordeand to sit befor the pulpit and be rebuked for her ryot in the kirk against Marie Douglas. Alexander Keith, seruant to Robert Hardie, bailzie, for bydeing out of his master's hous wnder nicht is ordeant to pull of his syd heres and acted to keip better ordour wnder paine of standing in the jogis.

14th June.—Corser in the Ald Mills is ordeant for hir railing to stand in the jogis tuixt ten and tuell houris before noone.

25th June.—Alexander Murray, kirk officer, is becum acted that giff he beis found absent from preiching, morning or evening prayeris to attend upon the kirk, without leave askit and givin he sall then pay halff a merk *toties quoties.*

5th July.—Comperit the people of the hospitall, John Smyth and his wyfe Thomas Air and his wyff and Margaret Douglas for their curseing with other and not keiping of the kirk ordanis them to be heir on Sonday nixt and act themselves better to keip kirk heirefter or else they wilbe put out.

12th July.—John Ogilvy of Miltoun of Keith contracted with Jean Innes, relict of Robert Innes, bailie of this burgh.

2nd August.—Johne Chalmber, younger, skinner, to pay 40s. for putting in his horse in the Chanerie kirk zarde.

30th August.—The men that makis the graues ar ordeant for ilk graue within the kirk to get 10s. without the kirk 6s. for a barne within the kirk 4s. without the kirk 2s.

Collections in September: 1st £3 2s; 8th 58s. 8d.; 10th 7s.; 15th 49s. 8d.; 17th 5s.; 22nd £3 4s.; 24th 7s.; 29th 57s. 8d.

3rd September.—No sessioun becaus of the mercat Sant Geills day.

[10th September.—In a slander case John Purse and his wife were allowed to redeem

themselves from the mitre for ten merks, but not from public repentance.]

25th October.—William Duncan for biging dykis on the Saboth day to mak his repentance at the piller and pay 40s. to the pure.

1st November.—Marjory Buyne confesst hir going to the chepell well. To stand three dayis at the piller and pay 40s. James Hosak (and three others) in Inerlochty confessit the schearing of their corne upon Sonday at nyne houris at evin. They are comit to ward till they set cautioun for fulfilling of ther repentance to stand at the piller on Sonday and pay a merk ilk ane of them to the pure.

12th November.—Margaret Elgin confessit hir going to the chepell well at Speysyde. To mak hir repentance at the piller and pay 40s.

21st November. — Contract of mariage betuixt the Right Honourable William Hay of Fotterletter, uncle to the Erle of Frroll, and Dame Marie Innes, relict of Johne Urquhart of Cragfintrie.

20th December.—Ordeanis that ilk mr. of familie being absent from the examinatiouns without a laufull excuse sall pay 20s. as also halff a merk for ilk servant withholden be the mrs. default.

1634.

14th February.—Johne Fischer in Innerlochty ordeant to mak his repentance at the piller for being absent from the kirk and cutting woode upon the Saboth day.

18th March. — Agnes Muresone for hir scolding in the kirk in the tyme of examyne is ordeant presently to be put to the jogis.

18th Apryll.—Alexander Nucoll is committ to ward for his misbehaviour at the communioun. Alexander Dauidsone cautioun to present him the nixt day.

22nd Apryll.—Alexander Nucoll for taking away the bread from the table is put to ward till Thursday nixt and advyse with the bischope what farther salbe done with him.

2nd May —The church Byble is presented and allowit to be red.

6th May.—The Thesaurer to giff Margaret Black a groat weiklie till scho be better in health.

3rd June.—No sessioun becaus of the mercatt called Tarnty day.

22nd June.—Thomas Air is cautioun for his wyffe that scho sall not be hard in the bead hous heirefter, or, if scho be, both he and scho salbe removed.

4th July—Ane called —— Gilbert and Alexander Clark induellers in the parosche of Dundurcos bying plantis from Robert Forbes and John Donaldsone on the Saboth day to cause them be censured be ther avne presbetry.

6th July.—The gudwyff of Cottis hes sent in tuenty merks to the minister to be given to the pure efter her husband's disceas quhilk was ordeant to be given to honest pure widowes.

25th July—No sessioun becaus of the mercatt—Sant Jame day.

17th August.—Collected for the people of Cathnes quho is in distress 40 lib.

2nd September. — Sant Geills day — no sessioun becaus of the mercatt.

30th September.—Michaell day ditto.

30th November.—George Kay for refuseing thebrode on Sonday before none to collect at the kirk dore sould pay therfore as much as vses to be collected vpon a Saboth day zit with the haill consent of the elders is continued upon his better behaviour pretending ignorance.

1635.

Tysday the 20 Januarii no preiching nor sessioun suche was the storme of snow that the people were not able to cum to the kirk.

6th Feb.—James Cuming and George Bonyman, ilk ane of them pay 20s. for the buriall of ther barns in the Chanery Kirk, and all

others that heirefter dois the lyk without the consent of the sessioun.

17th February.—Apoynts ilk bailze in his quarter with a elder and the reader to go through the toun to collect the contribution for the pure.

8th Marche.—Ordains to warne them that vse to hant the Chanery Kirk in the tyme of preiching.

7th Aprill.—Quhilk day in presens of Androw Annand and Johne Andersone, elderis, Duncan Farquhar, servant to Alexander Gilzean, sadler, was handfastit with Jonet Bandochy, laufull dochter to William Bandochie in Clakmares and set Alexander t himester cautioun for the woman performing. Payne 5 lib.

5th May.—Alexander Watsone and Violet Gordoun wer handfast together wnder promise of mariage and set Thomas Murdoche cautioun for ther performance wnder the payne of tuentie pundis partie breaker.

[Numerous cases of "handfasting" follow, but none after the early months of 1636. The word evidently here means simply "contract of marriage." The caution set is similar].

26th May.—No sessioun being Tarntie day.

16th June.—Margaret Measone is becum acted not to reset any man or woman within her hous and that scho be not found at the kirk dore beging, quhilk if scho dois sall be put immediatly off the toun. Johne Leslie in the colledge is becum suretie for all his tennantis in the Ladie High hous that they live honestlie vpoun ther wertue and resett no beggeris.

21st June.—Intymatioun made be the bischope that ilk mr. of famlie be countable for the induellers in ther landis.

3rd July.—John Smyth, flescher, carieing flesch throw the calsey on the Saboth is acted willingly if he beis found doing the lyk againe he sall pay 40s. by punischment of his bodie.

Saboth the 16 August. — The minister absent in Aberdeen. The bischopes of Galloway and Rose were present at sermone. Collected £4 7s.

1st December.—Andersmes market.

4th December.—The gudewyff of Blakhills gaue in a bill of sclander against Barbara Innes, laufull dochter to the gudeman of Cokistoun.

1636.

15th January.—Alexander Dunbar, sone to Robert Dunbar is ordeant to stand at the piller on Sonday nixt for his ringing of basones and schandleris through the toun.

17th January. — Alexander Dunbar is receavit fra the piller for clinking of basens through the toun on Uphaly even.

7th February.—Alexander Shioche and his wyff both present confest that the siff (sieve) and the scheir was turned in their hous [to discover a thief].

9th February —Comperit Bessy Thomsone, spouse to Alexander Schioche in Blakhills and for suffering the siff and the scheir to be turned in their hous contrary to all gude ordour and the actis of the kirk. Scho is ordeant to stand at the piller sex Saboth dayis in sackclothe and to pay four pundis of penalty to the pure. Scho confest it was a wobster named Doull that did it.

23rd February. — To advyse with the bischope and presbytry to haue a fast in suche extreim disease of the poxe among the young children.

4th March.—Johne Rory burgis of Innernes for abuseing Androw Young in the mercat is ordeant to pay a dollour to the pure.

3rd Apryll.—Fryday nixt intimate to be a fasting day before the Communioun. The same day ordeans to be morning and evening prayers as also sermoun before and efternoone.

13th May.—Marjory Peterkine and Marjory Duffes ordeant to be banischit out of this

toun. The latter fainzed hir selffe a creiple and was not ane indeid.

29th May —Christan Alschender spous to William Soutter in Mostowie and Christan Serare there are convenit for turning the siff and the scheir for some geir they wanted. They are put to ward till they set caution to stand in the govis Setterday nixt before noone with a siff and a scheir besydes them, for example to otheris and if they be found doing the lyk againe they sall be burnt on the cheik and banischt.

29th July.—Compeirt Thomas Purse and confessit himself and his brother to have fisched on the Sabboth day tymous in the morning.

31st July.—Issoble Layng in the Grein is becume acted that heirefter scho nor nane of hirs sall offend the teyndsteris by curseing, railling or sclandering Christan Ker dureing hir tak of the teyndis and that under payne of fyve pundis.

[The following is now the usual form of entering a marriage contract.]

7th August, 1636.—Contract bund up betuixt Gilbert Adame and Christan Schand, laufull dochter to Alexander Schand both within this congregatioun, set Alexander Stronoch there cautioner for performance wnder the paine of x lib.

22nd November.—James Gordoun, measone, is desyrit to sie the queir and what he will tak to pathement the same that the Sessioun may adwyse and agrie with him and the remnant of the parosche to be steuted for that effect.

9th December.--Fryday nixt to be the fasting day before the Communioun. Ordeans that every master of family byding fra the examinations being lawfully warned thereto sall pay 20s and ilk seruant half a merk.

1637.

8th January.—William Duncan and his wyffe

ar both of them acted that they sall vse no inchantmentis or charmeing at any tyme heirefter wnder all hiest paine.

13th January.—Patreik Gardyne is acted how soone his dochter coms to the toun he sall present hir to the Sessioun for hir gyseing at Yule.

19th March.—It is statute and ordeant that nane heiretter sall have the benefite of mariage specially they of the purer sort except that first they set caution that they be diligent and carefull in that vocation God hes called them to quherby they nor ther posterity be burdensome to the toun through ther sleuth and negligence bot that they indevore be all means laufull to acquyre ther ovne liveing except that powerty come through long seiknes or through sum sensible wisitation otherwayis and this is first execute on the persone of David ray a man past fourscore and ten zeiris being contracted to a young woman. It's ordeant that their bands be stopit and no mariage granted them.

2nd May. — Contract betuixt Mr James Straquhen Mr. of the Grammer Schoole in this burgh and Margaret Chalmer, daughter to John Chalmer, elder, merchant burges there.

1638.

5th January.—The Communion to be intymate bot becaus they culd not agrie on the preparation day delayit the same till they sould advyse with the Bishop.

1 th January.—To warn the beadmen for not keiping the kirk.

14th January.—The preparation sermon to be on Fryday.

23rd January. — John Melvill and Jean Dunbar being to be married are found ignorant of the comandments, hes acted themselves both willingly to have tuixt this and Pasche wnder paine of 40s

23rd February.—Two women, Bodvell and Davidson, threatened by the Session to be

convoyed from the West Port to the jogis with the sound of the drum.

15th April.—James Paull and John Murdoche and Alexander Falconer ar to be maried and presently before ar acted notto mak tumult nor stryve for place at going out at the kirk doris wnder paine of 40s each man for himself. [It was unlucky to be last.]

20th April.—Thomas Gaderer admitted in James Layng's place to mak the graues and promeist to be faithfull and just, and not to open the zeird without consent of minister or reader.

13th May.—The people that vent to the wode of Spynie under silence of nicht ar ordeant to be wardeit so many of them as ar heir present till they set caution for their compeirance.

25th May.—George Kay and others who were at the woode of Spynie upon ane Saboth day at nicht to go to ward and stay there till sex hours at night, and or they come furthe of the ward to set cautioun not to do the lyk againe or be found out of their master's hous efter ten houris at nicht to stand in the jogis, and besydis to mak ther publict repentance gif they sall transgres the same.

Collections in September—2d, £3 4s ; 9th, £3 1s ; 16th, £3 3s ; 23d, £3 9s.

6th November.—The Tysdayis preaching begun againe be Doctor Gordonn.

9th November.—James Chalmer, younger, being wardit brake ward without ordour.

18th December.—The play is granted to the barns Setterday nixt against Zule.

The foregoing is the usual entry at this season.

23rd December.—To intymate that no abuses be about the Zule tyme.

25th December (Tuesday).—Zule day. Collected 20s.

1639.

Dr Gordon Depryved.—Sonday the 5 of Mai the Chantor of Morray preicht. Collected 53s 6d. The quhilk day he intymate that be the Synodal Assembly at Forres holden the 1 of Mai instant that Doctor Gordoun, preichour at Elgin was depryved from his functioun of the ministery for certaine causes impute to him theranent, and also to intymate that quhill it sould please God to plant ane in his place in the ministery that Mr Thomas Craig, minister at Spynie, sould keip Tysday for holding of the sessioun and baptisme and mariage, and Mr Alexander Spence, minister at Birney, to attend on Fryday for the same purpose.

19th May.—To intymate upon Sonday nixt that God willing Sonday cum aucht dayes is ordeant to be a day of publict humiliation and fasting, also to intymate that nane resort to forbidden wells or caves under paine of the acts made thereanent.

23rd June.—It is ordeant that there be no mariages heirefter upon the Saboth for prophanation therof.

30th June.—Intymation made that nane resort to the Channery Kirk at any tyme, specially in tyme of preiching or prayers wnder all hiest paine.

5th July.—To intymate that the toun people keip the morning and evening prayers better nor they doe, that they be not found in the fisch mercat nor vse trading in the buthes till they be endit.

12th July.—Certaine people warned for resorting the Chanery Kirk. Compert Agnes Lesly, the relict of vmquhill John Bonyman and Robert Purse, Kathrein Robertsone, Margaret Hamiltoun, spous to William Falconer, Margaret Murray, spous to John Fraser and confessit themselves at sundry tymes to resort thither quhilk they were inhibite to doe againe at any tyme heirefter

to their prayeris or any superstitious place to give ill example quhilk they promised not to resort ther heirefter wnder the pains of the censurs of the kirk.

21st July.—To intymate that no man or woman resort the Channery Kirk at any tyme for prayer under the paine of the acts of the kirk.

13th December. — Given to Alexander Forsyth, glasin wricht, thrie pundis out of the penaltys for putting wp a glassin window in the kirk.

1640.

February.—The preparation sermon to be on Sonday.

1st March.—Ordeans that the contracts [of marriage] hold upon Sessioun dayes bot chieflie after morning prayers.

Sonday the 8 March the communion giwen sittin.

Sonday the 15 Marche being the second day of the communion Mr William Falconer preached. Collected with a basen at the table 49 marks 8d.

8th May.—Compeirit Johne Peeterkine for letting down some wine on Mr James Strachane, schoolemaster, out of the wast laft of the kirk in tyme of divyne seruice. Case referred becaus of the paucitie of elderis.

"The Sessione buik begune be William Murray the 24th May 1640." The following in a more modern hand: "This volum contains the proceedings in Session from May 14th 1640 to September 29th 1648 inclusive under the ministry of Mr Gilbert Ross, who was admitted 24th September 1640 and dyed 13th August 1644. Mr Murdoch M'Kenzie transported from Invernes and admitted at Elgin April 17th 1645 and Mr Thomas Law transported from Boharm and admitted at Elgin August 28th 1645."

The following shows the form now of contracts of marriage :—

There was a promeise of mariage ratified betuixt Androw Wilsone and Elspet Dasone, both within this burgh, William Tarrase, cautioner for abstinence and performance. Penaltie 20 libs.

[The Session was sometimes held without a minister being present.]

15th November.—A generall fast for the happie proceiding and concluding of the Parliament of England.

Tysday, 17th November. — No sessioun becaus of the provest's daughter's marriage.

4th December.—Alexander Watsone and Patrick Chalmer litsters for hinging out cloath or wobes to dry one the Sabbath day censured.

11th December.—It was ordained be the Sessioun that two scollers of the Gramer Schoole sould com to the kirk in the efternoone everie Sonday at the second bell ringing and say the Catechisme that the pepill may be instructed.

29th December.—Next Sabbath to be a fasting day for preparation to the Communion.

1641.

Act of Sessione for going to the Chanrie Kirk.—There was derect to intimat on Sunday against these that goes to the Chanrie kirk to there pretendit devotion their persones to be wardit and to be fyned in their meanes according to the will of the session and to stand in sakcloath one the Sabbath dayes at the piller and who ever knowes of any that goes to the Chanrie kirk and delated them not sal suffer lyk punischment and pay lyk penaltie.

3rd January.—The preparatione sermone before the Communion to be on Satterday nixt at ane efternoone.

10th January.—Communion day. Aucht

tables served. To George Imlach, wright, for nailes and seting up the Communion table 54s, also to the four officers and the kirk officer for keiping the kirk dores and helping to set up the table 54s.

20th January.—Before the session Androw Annand, thesaurer, brought in 50 libs money to the south ile of St Geils Kirk and there dealt it to the poor.

26th February.—Compeired William Duncan in Inchmarnach for grinding corne wpon the Sabbath day. He acted himselff to compeir one Tysday nixt wnder the pain of paying 10 libs

2nd March.—Compeired Alexander Forsyth, glaswright, who hade gotten his burgesschip of the tonne for upholding the glasen windowes of the kirk and the queir and the south ile wind and water ticht and he sould have ten merks zeirlie out of the Sessioun for soe doing sa lang as he leived. This he hes acted himselff to doe.

7th March.--Collected 3 libs 12s 4d. This collection was given to a man who had a testimoniall fra the minister and elders of Aldearne schewing that this man hade his house and all that he hade brunt.

12th March.—Androw Annand got allowance for bestowing upon a kist and a winding scheit to Androw Avas, who was ane of the toune officers, whilk extends to 4 libs 3s 4d.

14th March.—Compeird Archbald Forrester a litster in Keyth who hade his sone David Forrester contracted and thryse proclamed wpon Ursilla Dunbar within this burgh. He gave in a petition to the session desyreing that his sone sould go to Keyth and there seik his father's and mother's blessing before he sould be married whilk was granted and the zoung man obeyed and zeid and sought their blessing, but they wold not give it.

27th March.—The Session ordaines the Magistrates and Mr William Coban and Thomas Cadell to wait on the tables and Mr

James Anand and Alexander Petrie is ordained to wait on the tickets at the kirk dores and efter to wait wpon the wyne.

28th March.—Collected at the tables 43 libs 13s 4d.

2nd April.—The Sessione ordained Andrew Annand to give 20 merks of the money that was collected at the communion table to be bestowed on timber and one a craftesman to mak formes to the table.

6th April (Tysday).—No session be reason of a meiting of the gentrie.

9th April.—Compeired George Gordonn, skinner, for speaking some wordes to the persone at the receiveing of the tikets and for not coming to the examinatione. He sat doune upon his knees befor the sessioune and craued God mercie and all that was ther and gaue a dollour to Androw Anand to be given to the poor 54s.

13th April.—Ordained Margrat Hamiltoun to be warned to the presbetrie for papistrie.

16th April.—The Session hes ordained that everie one that is found curseing or sweiring or taking the name of God in vaine, if it be maister or maistres of familie they sall pay tuelff penies for everie tyme they be reprehended and if it be a servant they sall pay sax penies or els sit sax houris in ward.

Sundaye, 18th Apryle. — The persone preached it being a fasting Sunday also he intimat that the Covenant sould be subscryued the next Sabbath and the act against banners and swearers was intimate.

23rd April.—Compeired Margrat Hamiltoun, spous to William Falconer, bailzie, and promeised to keip the kirk at preaching and prayers. George Gordon also promised.

Sunday, 25th Aprill.—The person preached. The covenant was read and subscryved be sundrie.

Tysday, 7th September.—A day of general thanksgiving throw the thrie kingdomes.

12th September.—The Session ordained the

footegang bewast the entres of Duffes dask to Marjorie Hay to sit in. They ordained the litill seat at the east end of the reader's dask for William Murraye's wyfe to sit in.

28th September.—The Session hes ordained that no new seates for wemen sal be builded befor daskes in no tyme coming.

1st October.—The Session granted roome betwixt the minister's wyfe's seat and the north yle door to the piller of Pluscardene's loaft to Johne Meldrum, routmaister, and his wyff to build a dask.

15th October — It was ordained to be enacted that these that did laugh in the kirk or wsed any wnseimlie behavior thair heirefter sauld be censored at the will of the Session. Also they that went out of the toun on the Sabbath dayes to mercates or when they were out of the toun one the Sabbath dayes, if they doe not keip the kirk in the parisch they sall hapen to be in they sall be censored at the will of the Session.

22nd October.—The Session give a poore boy caled Johne Patersone a stand of Scotes gray with a pair of hose and schoone.

2nd November.—William Robertsone and James Chalmer, in name of the Skiners, gave in a petitione to the Sessioun desyreing libertie to tak sum timber out of the Trinitie Church and a roume be east the north piller of the queir to build a dask for the Skiners.

[Two visitors for the east and two for the west were appointed every Friday, also two collectors.]

26th November.—Compeired James Murray for selling of nutes upon Sunday at even being Halloweven. He is ordained to ward till he find cautione that he stand at the pillar on Sunday next and confes his fault and craue God mercie and the congregatione. He gaue John Chalmer and Walter Gillan cautioners and he for their releife wnder pain of ten libs.

Sunday, 28th November.—A fast intimate to be the next Sabbath for the troubles of Irland.

Tysday, 30th November.—No preaching nor sessioun be reason of a mercate.

[The eldership is still elected yearly.]

7th December.—Ordained the examinatione to be intimate the nixt Sabbath to begin on the Tysday at night following and these that were absent the last zeir their penalties is ordained to be dowbled.

12th December. — £24 0 8 collected for Johne Smyth in Neather Manbeanes who had his hous brunt.

1642.

21st January.—The Session ordained the Tysdayes preaching to be intimate to be better keipt and that a visitor and ane officer go throw the toune to sie there be no booth doors open in tyme of preaching.

30th January.—Visitors ordained to go throw the toune everie Tysday.

8th February.—Compeired William Robertsone and James Chalmers, skiners, as commissionars from the Skiners, desyring ane coume aboue their dask, whilk was voted and refussed.

13th February.—Compeired James Chalmer and gaue in a petition for a foot broad befor the Skiners dask for their wyues to sit on quhilk sould be bund wp with cleiks or els taken away in tym of the communion; upon that condition it was granted.

20th February.—The persone preached. He intimate out of the pulpit that the landwart of the parisch schould com in heir to heir the preaching and not to go to other churches; wtherwayes to be wpon their owne hazard. Also to intimat that no oastler sould sell aill one the Sabbath; bot in caice of necessitie at diner or super or to people coming to the kirk

to refresch them, wtherwayes to the sellar's hazard.

27th February.—The contribution for the distressed that cam out of Irland was intimat to be gathered.

6th March.—Mr William Coban sent in a petition desyring to be received for a slaughter comited be him. The session knowing the man to be penitent and to have agried with the pairtie condescended all in ane voice he sould be received the nixt Sabbath he sould stand at the pillar in sakcloath.

15th March.—Mr William Coban receiued from the pillar for slaughter.

18th May.—The person preached and received William Couper from his excommunication, he being to be execute.

22nd May.—Ane dask granted to James Sutherland, tutor of Duffes, for paying of twantie marks it being a pairt of the common seats.

7th June.—The laird of Pettindreich gaue in ane bill for ane dask befor his dask that might hold two or thrie of his servandis also George Cuming, baillie, got libertie to build ane seat for his wyff at the east syd of the westmost pillar of my Lord Murrayes loaft befor Pettindreiches fordask.

8th July.—Compeired Katherine Makkayne for fasting Saint Ringand's fast [St Ninian]. Scho is refered to forther tryall.

2nd August.—Agnes Fimister, being in ward for slandering Androw Layng, scho was lattin out being acted wnder paine of banischment and burneing one the cheik that scho sall not speak any euill word to any in tyme comeing.

2nd September.—The Session gaue libertie to John Patterson, Sheriff-Clerk, to put to ane litle seat befor the tutor of Duffes dask door for his wyf to sit in.

14th September.—They granted the play to the bairnes of the Gramer School aught dayes.

16th September.—They ordained that it schould be intimat the next Sabbath that nane of the poor sould beg on the Saboth dayes and that no maner man or woman sould give them any thing at the kirk doores or wtherwayes they sall get nane of the collection, when it is gathered and distributed. The Session ordained that intimatione be made the next Sabboth for gathering a contributione at the Kirk doore to give Doctor Hardie for curing a poor manes lip of the cancer cald Androw Watsone.

[23 lib. 10d collected.]

16th October (Sunday).—No Session becaus of ane buriall.

21st October. — The Session ordained Androw Annand to give John Mill in Devellie greine, who had his hous brunt, 8 lb.

15th November.—The Sessioun ordained that warders get nothing to eat or drink bot bread and watter.

18th November.—The Sessioun ordained all that danced one Hallow even to stand in ward 24 hours and pay ilk ane of them halff a merk to the officers which they did. Whilk day Elspet Andersone, being in the Laich tolbooth for flyting, scalding and stealing, scho willinglie acted herselff to be banisched presentlie and that scho sould never lodge ane night in Elgin efter this and if ever scho be found in Elgin scho is ordained to be brunt on the cheik and banisched.

20th November (Sunday).—No meiting of the elders becaus of ane burial.

16th December. — Alexander Cuik compeired for not keiping of the kirk. He is ordained to be particularlie and publiclie admonisched out of the pulpit and to give signes of repentance befor the congregation.

18th December.—Compeired Barbra Innes for byding away from the kirk and going to the freir kirk ; if scho byde away from the kirk or be seine going to the freir kirk or be

heard scalding with her neighbours scho is ordained to be banisched.

1st Jauuary. — They ordained Alexander Leslie, baillie, to go with the person as reulling elder to the visitatione of the Kirk of Bellie.

10th January.—Collected 12s 8d, and given to the cutler's wyff.

31st January. — They ordained Androw Annand to give out of the Irisch contributione to ane dumb man that was ane minister's sone ane dollar.

Sunday, 5th February.—The Declaratione was publiklie read.

12th February.—To ane distressed minister from Irland cald Mr Patrik Glass sax dollars.

17th February.—The Sessioun ordained Robert Dunbar and Alexander Russell, elder, to goe speak the Laird of Pettindreich for not keiping of his oune parisch kirk and report their dilligence. To ane minister's daughter cald Marjorie Hay who had hir father killed in Irland be the Rebells twa dollars.

24th February.—The Sessioun ordaines that nane in the landwart byd from their owne parisch kirk.

17th March.—Compeired Katrin Dasone for going to the Chanrie Kirk. Scho denyed. It is ordained if scho be found there againe scho sall be censored at the will of the Sessioun. Barbra Innes and Margrat Bell is ordained to be put in ward for their none-compeirance. John Fraser is acted cautione for Barbra Innes that scho sall compeir at the first citatione, this is for flyting and sweareing.

18th March.—Six elders to wait on the doores for the tiketes and to serue the tables and Alexander Russell, elder, to wait one the stoupes. Compeired George Gordoun for papistrie. He is refered to the presbitrie. Compeired ane distressed Irisch woman cald Anna Griffith, sometyme spous to Mr William Murray, ane minister in Irland, whom the

rebels there, as hir testimoniall declared, hade crucified. Given to her fyue dollars.

2nd April.—George Gordone declared himself publictlie be his oath that he was not a papist.

[Mr John Hay, provost.]

9th April.—The keeping of the afternoones preaching intimat. The forbidding of going to walls or chapells intimat.

14th April.—The Sessioun ordained the minister with tua elders of ewerie quarter to go throw the toun one Wedensday nixt to wisit the poore and try ewerie quarter and ewrie hous to sie how thei leiued and wherfra they cam that the toun might not be troubled with stark beggares, nor stragling beggares, nor ———, nor theives, with the quhilk the toun has bein troubled by gane.

16th April.—To sex Inglisch men being shipbrokin and souldiers to my lord Forbes 16 merks.

30th April.—For slandering Alexander Sutherland Thomas Gilmichell and his wife ordained to pay five lib. to the poore and to stand 24 hours in the new hous and to ask the pairtie offendit forgivnes or els stand on Saturday in the gowes two hours and to go to waid till thei set cautione.

21st May.—Tysdaye's preaching intimat to be keipt better.

25th August.—To tuo women who hade young bairnes and come from Irland 40s.

September. — Collections :—Sundays — 3rd (Communion) 33 libs 16s ; 10th £3 4s ; 17th 3 lib 4s 12d les ; 24th £3 15s 4d. Tysdays—5th 8s 6d ; 12th 9s 6d ; 19th 12s 2d ; 26th 14s 2d.

10th September.—To Elizabeth Cuming, spous to Robert Smyth, who hade a testimonial direct from the Commitie and Generall Assembly to the Sinod in Murray, they being distressed Irishes 4 lib. out of the Irish contribution. Also to give ane uther Scottis Irish gentlewoman who hade tuo or three bairnes

tuo dollars. Her name is Margaret Sime, hir husband being killed be the Irish rebells.

24th September.—Compeired the minister, being speaking for a dask in the kirk for the laird of Innes. All the sessione thocht it fittest to give him the pairt where the visitours dask is to build ane dask for himself.

6th October.—*Irishes*—The sessione ordains Androw Anand to give to distressed people come from Ireland that hade testimonialls from the Comity of Estates and General Assembly being direct to the Sinod of Murray namely to Elizabeth Fairlie 8 merkis, to Elizabath Weims 8 merkis, to Elspet Cuming 2 merkis, to ane dumb man caled John Sincklair 2 merkis, to Margaret Ross 12s., all this given out of the Irish contribution.

8th October.—Olifer Zoung ordained to enter to the sklaiting of the ile one Wedensday under paine of 20 lib.

10th October.—The Sessione ordains that on Tysday fra the second bell ring to the preaching there sall be no fish mercat nor fra the bell ring to the prayeris ewrie day wnder paine of halfe merk the buyer and seller.

17th October. — Whilk day the sessione ordained that there sould be bot ane magistrate and foure elders with him in everie quarter and some of these to be changed evrie zeire at the will of the sessione. Whilk day these were named who are to leave office of elders and deacons for this nixt ensuing zeire, 1644, and are to be intimate nixt Sabbath.

24th October.—Compeired Johne Donaldsone and his wyff for not keeping the kirk. They are ordained if they be found out of the kirk again to be put in the jogges. To three shipbroken men that came from Kirkwall and was going to Fraseresburgh 27s.

27th October.—The Sessione ordaines that quhosoever in the Old Mills resaittes or keepes any stranger without thei bring their testimoniall and shew it before the Sessione sall pay ten poundis. The Sessione ordaines

that whosoever is delate cursers or blasphemers of the name of God sall be put in ward on the Fryday efter the Sessione and stand there till Satterday at ten hours and then takin forth and be put in the joggis till 12 hours and pay halfe merke to the officer.

31st October.—Compeired Agnes Corsar for cursing and scalding and stealling, &c., &c. She is ordained to be banished betuix this and Mertimes.

5th November (Sunday).—The elderis was receiwed and they sweare and subscrywed the League and Covenant.

[Mr Gavin Douglas, provost.]

The minister and elders conveind. They ordained the nixt Sabbath a fast and that the whole parroch sould sweare and subscrywe the League and Covenant. Compeired Robert Stronach for breaking of the Sabboth. They ordained him till ward till the morne after the prayeris and then to act himselfe not to doe the lyke againe under what pain the Sessione sall enjoyne him whilk he did, also ordained Androw Annand to give ane distressed man that come out of Ireland, called William Craighead, of the Irish money 12s.

Sunday, 12th November, being ane fasting day the persone preached, whilk day the people, both men and women, did swear and subscrywe the League and Covenent.

17th November.—To ane po r man that came out of Ireland cald William Dalgardno 12s.

24th November.—Alexander Williamsone cald, not compeired. The foure officers are ordained to bring him and put him in ward for his wnreverent speech in saying he hade gottin twyse wrong.

23th November.—Alexander Williamsone compeered, ordaines him to stand at the pillar in sackcloth and crave mercie for his falt.

22nd December.—The Sessione ordained that whose seruands sall not work on the 25th day December there fies sall be brought in to

the Sessione and their bodies punished at the will of the Sessione, and if their maisters hawe payed their fies already they sall pay it ower againe to the Sessione. This to be intimate.

[No service held on Christmas Day.]

26th December.—To ane poor man that came from Ireland, cald William Tourner, quho hade three or foure bairnes 26s.

1644.

14th January.—To give out of the Irish contribution 4 lib. to Donald Roxburg, 2 merks to Cutbeard Bar, 8s. to Johne Wilsone.

28th January.—The Sessione ordaines that none sall be contracted except they come and say the Lord's Prayer, the beleife, and the Commands. This to be intimate on Sunday nixt.

2nd February.—Compeired Agnes Muirsone, aleadged to be ane witch. Sho is ordained to be put in ward till they see if there be any that hes delationes to give in against hir. This to be intimate on Sunday next.

4th February.—The Sessione ordaines that none of the pensionars get ony of their pension nor any of the poore folkis bills be hard till they hawe the beleiff, the Lord's prayer and ten commands.

9th February. — To foure distrest people that came out of Ireland who hade their testimonialls. Their names was James Hay, Francie Hay, Margaret Hay, Jean Hay two dollors.

16th February (Fryday). — Compeired Marjorie Bothwell for dinging her mother and cursing and swearing, ordaines her to be warded till Sunday and to stand at the pillar in sackcloth with ane paper on her head containing—"This is the woman that pat hand on her mother."

1st March.—Alexander Dunbar, notar, is ordained to prone Jeane Mitchell a witch betuix this and this day fifteen dayes.

3rd Marche. — The provest and bailies ordained that it sould be recorded in the Sessione book that Johne Donaldsone, merchant burges of Aberdeine, being ane borne bairne of Elgin had givin the toun of Elgin the gryt hears that hingis befor the pulpit.

Fryday.—Vi. [Visitors] at the eist William Coban William Warden. At the west James Mill, James Innes. [Similar entries occur weekly.]

10th March.—The fast for the armie one Wedensday next was intimate.

19th March.—It was regrated of bearing of burne and carieing of caldrones and acquavity potes on the Sabbath day. The Sessione hes ordained the officiares to take all these they sie caried efter this that they may be disponed one at the will of the Sessione.

26th March.—To Androw Stalker halff ane dollor for mending the Communion cupes.

Meetings of Session every Sunday, Tuesday and Friday.

29th March.—To ane poore woman who was creple of both hands be the rebells in Ireland, sho being called Margaret Duncan one dollar.

2nd April.—To ane distressed woman that is cald Jonnet Forbes that cam out of Ireland who hade two or thrie poore bairnes 2 merks.

Sunday 21st Aprill 1644 —The first day of the conventione of the gentrie and comones the persone preached in the toune Kirk and Mr Alexander Sumer (?) preached in the Chanrie Kirkyard. Collected at both the meetings £6 17 6.

28th April.—Mr James Parke preached before noone and the persone preached in the Chanrie kirk. Collected at both kirkis £7 10 6

3 May. – To ane Irish woman caled Issoble Grame 5 merks.

It was ordained by the Sessione that ewrie ane that was found to be drunk sould for the first falt pay ane merke and after that to be

punished according to the Act of Parliament.

14th May.—Margaret Scatterland, that came out of the Enzie to this toun wanting a testimoniall to be banished out of the toun.

4th June.—Compeired Elspet Findlaysone quho hade com out of Edinburgh wanting ane testimoniall. Shee is acted to bring ane testimoniall againe the 1st August. Compeired Christen Foster for puting out plaiding on the Ladyhill to dry on Sunday was aucht dayes, it being thought a worke of necessitie yet shee was ordained to stand beffore the pulpit on Sunday nixt and confesse it was a fault publictly that others may take example.

John Malice is gone to the weires (wars).

26th June.—At Mr Gawen Douglas, provest, his comand Elspet Andersone was taken out of the laich tolbooth being put in for stealling and scalding. Scho is willinglie acted to be banisched with touk of drume and to be scourged if ever scho be sein in Elgin againe.

Penalties from 2nd May 1643 to 5th July 1644 £229 8 2.

9th July.—Elspet More is in the New Hous for scalding and flyting.

26th July.—The letter from the Generall Assemblie was presented for ane thanksgiving to God for the victorie our armie had in Ingland against Prince Rupert, which is ordained to be keip one Sunday the 4th of August. William Murray has nothing to pay his penaltie. He is going to the wares.

Tysday 13th August.—Mr Gilbert Koss our minister being departed this lyfe there was neither preaching, colection, nor sessioun.

Sunday 25th August.—Mr Georg Hanna preached befornoone. No preitching in the efternoone becaus of the West expedition.

The following is a copy of the usual form of contract, the "pain," however, not usually so great :—

6th September —Whilk day befor Georg Cuming and Mr James Anand there was ane

promeise of mariage ratified betwixt Mr William Watsone, minister at Duthell, and Issobell Cuming, goodwyfe of Essill. George Cuming cautione for performance under pain of 100 lib.

6th October.—The stent roll of the pleughes of the paroch of Elgin that caried meill up Speysyd to Ruthwein of Badinoch to the Marquess of Argyll :—The landes and barronie of Pluscardene 12, Pettendreich, Devillie Grein, Over and Neather Manbeanes, and Hauch 10, Bogsyd 2, Easter Kelless 2, Meikle Inerlochtie 4, Litle Inerlochtie and Whytfeild 4, Mostowie 2, Lewinshauch 1, Mayne 3, Thornehill 2, Easter and Wester Whytwreathes 3, Langmorn 2, Clakmarres 1, Blakhills 2 ; summa 50.

1645.

10th January.—To Mr Robert Tarrass and Mr George Hanay, they being commissioners for the Presbitrie to the Generall Assemblie be the ordinance of the Sessioun 10 lib. Whilk day Mr Murdach Makenzie cam to Elgin and got his presentation subscryved.

Sunday 19th January.—The scollers of the Gramer scool got 8 dayes play.

14th February (Fryday).—Collected 41s. There was given of this colectione twantie schillingis to twa poor seik sojors.

Wednesday 19th February.—The Irisches with Montrose and Col. cam in to Elgin and spoyled it, and stayed till Sunday the 2nd of March, 1645. [No session, &c., held then.]

Sunday 9th March.—No preaching. No session. No collectioun.

Sunday, 16th March.—No preaching bot prayers.

23rd March.—No preaching in the forenoone. Mr Alexander Sumer preached in the efternoone.

19th April.—The ministers conveined and admited Mr Murdach Mackenzie to be first minister off Elgin. Mr Walter Smyth

preached being Moderatour and received him, many of the toune and the gentrie with sundrie of the landvart being present.

Sunday the 11th May. — No preaching, Montrois being in the toune.

18th May.—No preaching.

[The Session met seldom between 4th February and 29th June.]

2nd June.—The Session meet in the South Ile of Saint Geills Kirk the burgh of Elgin. With consent of the provost, baillies and elders a dask is granted to Bessie Dunbar, spous to Alexander Dunbar, son to Nicolas Dunbar, baillie burgess.

[Women seem to have then sat separate from men in St Giles'.]

6th July.—William Robertsone desyred the litle seat befor the entrie of Pettendreiches dask to his wyff, Bessie Leslie. Granted.

20th July. — Compeired Alexander Wiquhart and desyred the wse of the reader's wyfe's dask in hir absence for his wyf to sit in. Granted.

22nd July.—Compeired the waybyders from the kirk in Innerlochtie. They and all waybyders from the kirk ar ordained to pay 20s.

29th July.—Christan Kay for slandering Elspet Dassoune and her goodman to be rebuked at the pillar foot with the myter on hir head.

1st August.—Agnes and Issobell Johnstoun for slandering Alexander Sutherland to pay 40s. and to confess their faultes at the pillar in tyme of preaching with papers on their heades.

10th August.—Ane generall thanksgiuing for the lat victorie in Ingland.

24th August.—John Murray, wobster, for fisching on the Sabbath day, ordained to ward till he set cautione to go to the pillar nixt Sabbath and confess his falt.

31st August (Sunday).—Mr Thomas Law preached efternoone.

[He was admitted 28th August.]

5th September.—It is ordained that there be twa magistrats and twa officers to watch without the toune everie Sabbath that ther be no burdinges caried through the toune as aquavitie potes or caldrounes.

24th September (Wednesday). — The Gordounes cam.

26th September (Fryday).—No Sessioun the Gordonnes being in the toun.

19th October.—The Tysdayes preaching was intimate to be begun on Tysday nixt.

21st October.—The Session hes ordained that there be. no contractes bot on Tysday and Fryday and that befor ane of the ministers and twa elders.

28th October.—The Sessioun hes ordained that there sall be no booth doores opened on the Tysdayes in tyme of preaching wnder all hiest pain. William Petrie ordained to be cited again Fryday nixt for going to the Chanrie kirk.

31st October.—Compeired William Petrie for going to the Chanrie kirk wpon Sunday betuixt the second bell and the third quhen he sould a bein in the kirk with the rest of Godes people; he is ordained that the next Sabboth to ryse out of his seat and confess his falt publiklie and if he be found going there again he is ordained to pay 40s. and to stand at the pillar in sackcloath. The Act against these that goes to the Chanrie Kirk to their pretended devotioune is ordained to be intimate on Sunday nixt and they to be seveirlie punisched.

2nd November.—Hew Falconer, for minting to swear falsely, &c., to stand in time of preaching, with a paper on his head.

11th November. — Compeired Alexander Murray, belman, for letting the Sabboth breakers out of ward, he is ordrined to be put in ward and to stand wntil these men be

warded and pay their penalties.

16th December, Tysday.—The Marques of Huntlie cam to Elgin with ane armie. No sessionne.

28th December.—No preaching.

1646.

4th January.—No preaching bot prayers. 11th January ditto.

[No preaching till 1st March, when Mr William Maitland preached. No preaching 22nd and 29th March, nor in April and May till 17th May, when Mr Murdoch M'Kenzie preached befornoone and Mr Thomas Law efternoone.]

31st May.—Mr Murdach M'Kenzie preached and intimate the Directorie. Compeired Thomas Keir for spreading of muk one the Sabboth night at even. He is ordained to be receiued out of his seat and admonisched publiklie. Compeired John Bankes for being drunk one the Sabboth and for dinging of Jeane Pantoun, scho being drunk also. The Session ordained them both to stand at the pillar in their owne cloathes and to be admonisched publiklie and if ever they doe the lyk againe they sall stand in the joges tuo dayes and in tyme of preaching to stand [at the pillar foot in hair cloath with ane paper on their head.

2nd June.—The Sessioun ordained the Sabboth to be keipt from Satterday at tuelve hours at night till Sunday at tuelve hours at night and dureing the 24 hours there salbe no scheiring nor leading of corne, no muking or spreading of muk, no fisching at wateres no breweing of aill or aqwavite, no travailling to markets or from markets, no carieing of caldrouns or aqwavite potes no zoking of cairts or sledes or doeing of any servill work which may be comprehended under the breaking of the Sabboth wnder all heist pain or censor of the Sessioun.

Paid to William Murrry, clerk to the Session for a year 20 lib.

14th June—Mr Murdach Makenzie preached and intimate the declaratione against the traitor James Grahme and his Irisches. The actes was also intimat against swearers and drinkers of healthes and drunkards.

23rd June —The heritors of the parisch ar to be warned to be heir the next Fryday for chuseing of men for wplifting of pecuniall soumes of swearers, drinkers of healthes and mokers of pietie according to the act maid at Pearth in Agust the 7th 1645 yeirs.

28th June.—For taking up the pains within this burgh—the provest and the baillies, and for the landwart—at the west Jerome Spence, at the east Gilbert Innes of Blakhills.

21st July.—Margrat Hamiltoun for drinking and scalding one the Sabboth day ordained to stand up in her seat and be admonisched publiklie.

9th August.—Compeired Barbra Innes scho being in the Chanrie Kirk in the tyme of the preaching. Scho is ordained to ward till scho pay tuantie schillings and be receiued at the pillar foot the next Sabboth. Scho payed 18s presentlie.

14th August.—Ordained that what elder soever sould be absent from the sessioun ather in burgh or laudwart sax sessioun days together sall pay 40s.

16th August.—If any elder stayed away from the Kirk and Sessioun fyfteine dayes together without ane verie reasonable excuse he sall pay 40s.

[Average of the Tuesday's collections in September, 11s 10d ; average of the Sunday's collections in September, £2 18s 7d.]

9th October. — The Session ordained intimatione to be out of the pulpit that who soever had any ditayes against Janet Kowie scho being in ward and alleadged ane witch that they sould declar the same befor Thursday nixt.

18th October.—Compeired Thomas Glas for dryueing scheip on the Saboth. He is ordained to pay 8s. to the officers and to stand at the pillar foot the next Sabboth, and if he be found to doe the lyk againe the sheip salbe confiscat and giuen to the poor.

20th October. — The Sessioun ordaines Alexander Murray, belman, to begin this night to light four plak candle four nights in the weke everie weke sa lang as the examinationes sall be for the toune.

30th October. — The Sessioun ordained Robert Strachan to lend Alexander Murray ane dollar at 55s. in name of the toune to buy candle to the examinationes.

8th November.—Compeired Elspet More. The Session ordains her to be banisched the morne for breaking the officer's face and saying scho wald gar the toun rew that scho was banisched.

Fryday 11th December.—No sessioun the Marquess being heir.

20th December.—The not keiping of Zuile was intimate. That there be no lykewakes was intimate.

29th December.—George Nicol gave in a bill schewing the reasones wherfor he did not marie Janet Neiveine. 1. He could not get his parents' consent 2. He could not get his master's consent 3. The woman was lous fingered 4. That they promised him 100 merks and could nor would pay it. The Session free him of the contract on his paying £8 &c.

1647.

24th January.—The Sessioun ordained that one the Sabboth dayes when the visitours comes in to the kirk ane of the officers, day about, sall go to the Chanrie Kirk and report what they sie or heare there.

14th February.—Sunday. No preaching Lo. Louite being heir.

Tysday 16th February.—No preaching Lo. Lowite being in the toune.

23rd March.—The session being posed if any of them knew any besyd these that ar already delat within this congregatione to have complyed with the publik enemie in any of the poynts contained in the Act of the General Assemblie and being particularly enquyred be the moderator theranent non is delate as guiltie.

Tysday 30th March.—Collected and given to the hangman 12s 4d.

28th March.—Ordinance of session and counsaill for servants : In regard of servantes insolencies in thir troublesome tymes wherein some rejects service that they may leiue louslie and uthers leiue their masters without their knowledge or consent, to refrain such lawless libertie the session ordaines that no servant leave at this ensuing term without their master's knowledge or consent under pain of losing their half year's fee and that none leave service on pretence of taking up house themselves and that none fee for harvest outside the burgh without the baillies' consent and that no servant be received from other places without a testimonial from the minister of that place.

3rd April.—Janet Glas for following sojors &c. ordained to be banisched the morne with the sound of the bell and not to be reset againe.

6th June.—The names of the persones that were intimate excommunicat are these 1. Luice Gordoun, sone to the lat Marques of Huntlie 2. Leith of Harthill 3. Patrik Gordoun caled Steillhand 4. Alexander Gordoun of Arrandoull younger 5. Arthour Forbes of Hattoun 6. Mr Alexander Innes 7. Mr William Maitland 8. John Gordoun of Sethle. Also the Act against complyars was intimate. Also Thomas Nucol, George Nucol, Alexander Nucol were cited for slaughter and ar to be excommunicat the next Saboth day.

13th June.—Complyers receiued against the pulpit in sakcloath : George Gordoune of

Achinreath, John Gordoun his sonne, Alexander Gordoun, Alexander An ersone. These that followes were excommunicat for slaughter: George Nucol, Alexander Nucol and Thomas Nucol to be admonisched.

18th June.—Robert Sime in Achtertyr and James Mortimer to be cited for slaughter to satisfie the kirk. The fast was intimate to be kept the next Sabboth for the plague.

22nd June. — Robert Sime and James Mortimer compeired. They are ordained to stand fyue dayes at the pillar foot in sakcloath and then be receiued as they sie them penitent.

2nd July.—James Lilie was acted wnder pain of fyue pund that he sall not put in any hors in the Chanrie kirkzaird.

4th July.—There was intimatione made that there sould be no pennie brydaills efter Tysday next and that everie ane that makis them sall pay 20 lib. and those that bides mak them ten pound and they that comes to them halff a dollar. George Marteine, Alexander Layng, Issobell Hardie and Issobell Dunbar to be cited for laughing in the kirk. Alexander Layng and Issobell Dunbar compeir and ar ordained to stand at the kirk door with the myter in their heades then to the pillar foot. George Marteine and Issobell Hardie are ordained onlie to the pillar foot.

11th July.—David Wilsone to stand at the pillar foot for biging peats on the Sabboth.

16th July.—Compeired Walter Innes of Pethnik in face of the congregation and testified be evident signes in sakcloath his deepe remors and sorrow of heart for the slaughter of George Gordoun of Achynachie within the parioch of Keyth for the which he was excommunicat. After compleating seven Sabbothes in sakcloth he was relaxed from excommunicatione.

20th July.—It is ordained be the session and counsaill that any stranger that is within the toun if they go over Spey that they

sall not win within the toune againe.

23rd July.—20 lib. to Alexander Murray, belman, out of charitie, in his present distressed estat throgh the violent plundering of his meanes be the publik cruell enemie.

6th August.—Compeired James Foulartoun and Alexander Gibsone for conversing with Luice Gordoun. They were admonisched being the first tyme, eiter his excommunicatione. George Watson, balmaker, denyed that he spak with Luice Gordoun.

29th August, 1647.—Compeired Alexander Hepburne, portionar of Mekle Innerlochtie and did supplicat the Sessioun for the uppermost degrie of the dask adjacent to the tutor of Duffes his dask westward wnder the north window. Granted.

5th September. — Janet Grant, spous to James Naghtie, for slandering Christan Gordoun to stann at the pillar foot in sakecloath with the myter on hir head and confess hir falt.

19th October.—The Session ordained Marjorie Layng to be banisched scho being an adulterer, ane theif and a scald and a Sabboth breaker and a blasphemer.

22nd October.—Compeired John Gordoun for not haweing ane calling to leiue by. He is reffered to the Counsall.

5th November.—Alexander Nucoll having committed slaughter and haweing gotten a letter of slanes he gave ane bill to be receiued to repentance. He shall stand three dayes in sakcloath at the pillar foot.

21st November.—Compeired Mariorie Layng. Scho is ordained to go the next Sabboth to the pillar foot and be receiued. Scho gets libertie to stay ane month in the toun to try hir and if scho be no better in her conversatione nor scho hes bein in the tymes bygane to send south for ane commission and caus droun hir.

4th December.—[The town was divided into four quarters for elders. Each quarter had five divisions with an elder for each, thus in

the north-west quarter the first division was—"Mr John Douglas fra the west port and without it to the Wynd besyd the meikle croce." In the north-east quarter the first division was — "Thomas Calder fra Lossie Wynd to Alexander Dunbar's hous," and the third division—"John Chalmer fra Alexander Urquhart's to Lazarus Wynd." In the south-east quarter the first division was—"Patrik Mursone fra the east port and without it to the Grayfreir Wynd," and the fourth division —"Fra Alexander Tarras' hous to the School Wynd." In the south-west quarter—"(1) Alexander Russall fra the School Wynd to his owne hous (4) John Mill fra the Earll of Murrayes to William Robertsone's hous (5) William Robertsone fra his owne hous to the west port and without it."]

2nd December.—Visitation. The ministers, Mr Murdach M'Kenzie and Mr Thomas Law being put foorth, and the provest, baillies and counsaill being desyred to stay in the Sessioun hous be the whol ministers of the presbitrie they ask of the counsaill what they thocht of their ministers. The counsaill ansuered all in one voyce that they were faithfull and painfull in their calling and honest and sober in lyff and conversatione and all of them prayed to God that they might be worthie of such pastors. The toune being put foorth the presbitrie asked Mr Murdach and Mr Thomas what they thoghts of their magistrats and people. They ansuered they thanked God for them especiallie for their magistrats and counsaill, who were faithfull and painfull in halding hand to sie vyce punisched and curbed of all sort and they were admonisched to caus their people keip the kirk better. William Murray was commended for being faithfull and painfull in wreiting and honest in his calling. Alexander Murray was reprehended for being negligent in his calling about the kirk and not warneing falters in dew tyme and not keiping the kirk and if he mend not to be put out of his office.

5th December. — William Ross, hangman, his 4s. that he got out of the poor folks' box is taken from him.

19th December.—It was intimate that none sould keip Zule.

26th December.—The officers that is in the landwart shall get for their fies tua schillings of everie 20s. that they bring in of penalties.

29th December.—List of 24 of the most indigent persons made out to receive help and mantenance monthlie the first Monday of everie month. The church thesaurer to conveine the said poor folks upon the first Monday of ilk month with the four deacones and to distribute to them 10s. Sc. to everie ane.

1648.

14th January.—Patrik Garden is ordained to be warded wntil he set catione that he sall not receive his daughter Katreine within his hous wnder pain of tuantie pund. Andrew Dik is catione wnder pane of 20 lib., and the said Garden to be banisched for accompanieing a man suspect of the plague efter scho was forbidden. Thomas Patersone's man being in service with the enemy is ordained to go to the presbitrie.

23rd January.—Penitentes receiued: James Stronoch his falt—in service with the enemie. Alexander Steven his falt—convers with the enemie bearing commissiones and receiuing protectiounes.

6th February.—William Layng compeired for not giueing satisfactione to the Session of Forress ordaines him go to Forres and bring ane testimoniall that he hes satisfied their kirk betuix this and Tysday the 15th of February under pain of banischment.

20th February.—It was intimate that there salbe no fisching wpon Spey nor any wther water from Satterday at tuelve hours at even wntil Sunday at tuelve hours at night. The Sessioun ordaines ane elder and a deacon to sit in the west loaft to keip the landwart

people in order and to be enroled everie Fryday with the visitours and collectours.

7th March.—The Session ordained sundrie of the merchands who had travelled to a marcat on the Sabboth everie one who sould be found guiltie to pay two merks and to confess their falt publiklie. Alexander Malice was reprehended for reseting Michall Urquhart the kard, he being excommunicat.

28th March.—The Sessioun ordaines give a maister sall fee a servant one the Sabboth day he sall pay ten mark and the servant sall pay his halff yeirs fie and sall repent publiklie.

14th April.—Communion tikets payed to Alexander Murray. Alexander Murray, belman, is payed for the tikets that was given to them that was examined fyue marks and is obliged to mak them furth cumand and to receive no more money for tickets.

2nd May.—Maister William Sanders sent ane letter from Fellie, which the Session received containeing that he had received and absolved Robert Davidsone, who had been with the Marquesse of Huntlie in the late Rebellion, from excommunicatione.

7th May.—The Session ordained ane collectour at the north door of the kirk everie Sabboth day.

23rd May.—William Wilsone payed four pound for making of penie brydals.

28th May.—Ordained that whosoever selleth aill one the Sabbath extraordinarlie sall pay two merks, any honest man or householder that buyeth sall pay one merk. The servand that buyeth sall pay halff a merk.

27th August.—Ane declaratione of the Generall Assemblie schewing the onlawfulness of the engagement in warre with England reade.

22nd September.—The Session ordained these that resets travaillers or pakers on anie Satterday at night that they let the ministers know or they go out of the toune on the Saboth under all hiest censour of the Sessione.

24th September.—The Act was read of the General Assemblie against silence in ministers in reproueing the sines of the tyme and such as upbraid or trouble them for their freedome.

10th December.—The people of Maine and Glasgrein were admonisched and scharplie reprehended for byding from the Kirk and is acted under the pain of paying ane merk everie ane of them give they byd away againe.

14th December.—The first day of the generall fast appoynted be the Comitie of the kirk. The solemn acknowledgment of the League and Covenant was read.

17th December.—This day the League and Cowenant was subscryued.

24th December.—It was intimat that the people keip not Zule bot work their ordinarie work wnder all highest censour of the Session.

29th December.—Compeired Margrat Logie and Bessie Ross delat for siting idle one Zule day and wnchrestian cariage to those that rebuked them. They are ordained to confess their falt publiklie on Sunday next wnder pain of banischment.

1649.

24th January.—The landwart people admonisched if they keip not the kirk better their names salbe read publiklie on the Sabboth and the absents seveirlie punisched.

11th February.—Ordained the ruling elders of the colledge and ane officer to visit the Chanrie Kirkzard everie Lord's day that there be no abuse there and bring the report to the Sessioun, also ordained ane officer to go to the Chanrie Kirkzard everie Lord's day in tyme of the efternoones preaching and through the colledge to see there be no abuse and report to the Session.

Sunday, 1st April.—A fast for preparation to the Sacrament.

27th March.—The Session ordained the names of all the sojors of the late wnlawfull engadgment to be taken wp the nixt Fryday

that they may confess their error and be received that they may have libertie to receive the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

1st Aprll.—Compeired these late engadgers whose names followes: James Anderson, William Wilson yr, Alexander Urquhart yr, David Mawer, Thomas Rotray, Thomas Aldis, James Stronoch, John Mitchell, George Marteine, Alexander Williamsone. James Tarras, Thomas Petrie and Walter Chalmer. These were ordained to be received publiklie one Satterday nixt being the day of the preparatione sermone and thereafter to subscryue the League and Covenant.

[The mitre is still in use as a punishment, but very few now have to appear barefooted or barelegged.]

7th April.—All the sojors of the late wnlawfull engagment within this parisch confessed their sin publikliend was receiaved and efterward subscryved the late league and covenant.

[In 1648 it was carried in the Estates of Parliament to send an army to deliver Charles from captivity. When it was seen that to oppose the Independents under Cromwell was but to aid the Royalists and Episcopalians, or as they were called the Malignants, then the Church opposed the engagement.]

It was intimate that no stranger men approach to the tables except these who to our knowledge hes subscryved the late League and Covenant.

[Saturday 7th and 14th April.—Preparation days for the Communion. Sunday 8th and 15th April.—The first and second days of the Communion.]

8th April.—The searchers being asked according to our ordinar custom if they saw anything on the streits bot good order they answered they saw no wher bot good order.

10th April.—The session ordaines Mr John Hay, provest, to speak to the toune counsaill anent the change of the Setterday marcate.

13th April.—The session and counsall enact the Satterday's marcat be changed to Fryday, and this is but prejudice of the fish mercat whilk sall continue all the weke days according to wse and wont.

29th April.—Sundrie who had not subscryued the League and Covenant did both swear and subscryve.

1st May.—Compeired Margrat Hamiltoune being cited for not communicating and not keiping the kirk and for going to the Chanrie Kirk. She promised obedience.

4th May.—The session ordained everie tyme that Elspet Anand and Anaple Chalmer ar found praying in the Chanrie Kirk they sall pay 20s the piece.

11th May—The moderator ordained that Georg Nucall ane excommunicate persone for slaughter sould be spokin to the next Sabboth and as he is found penitent to receiue him a Sabboth or two efter.

25th May.—The Sessioune ordaines everie hors or beast that is found in the Chanrie kirkzaird efter this the maister thereof sall pay 20s.

27th May.—George Nucall relaxed from the sentence of excommunicatione. He testified his deip remors for being at the slaughter of Robert Boyne.

5th June.—George Sadler sharplie rebuked for travailling to Duffes one the Saboth and is ordained to be punisched if he be fond doeing the lyk againe.

19th June.—Compeired Alexander Rioch [and seven others] all cart callers [carters] and were scharplie rebuked for not keiping the kirk.

1st July.—The elders got their charge to sie the Lord's day kept holie.

10th July.—The Session ordaines everie

cart caller that bydes from the kirk any Sabboth to pay 20s.

15th July.—Many of the people of the south-west quarter of the toune were cited befor the Sessioun for byding away from the kirk one the Sabboth. They compeired and were admonisched and scharplie rebuked and it is ordained when their names are cald on out of the pulpit be the minister and they answer not everie one of them that ansuers not sall pay 10s.

15th July.—The Sessioun considering the necessitie of the poor in this gryt dearth they ordained three or four elders and the deacones to go throw everie quarter of the toun and try who is indigent and bring the report thereof to the Sessioun on Tysday next that they may be helped.

17th July.—The report of the poor cam in and they were helped accordinglie.

20th July.—Patruik Mursone compeired for transgressing of the Act anent the pennie brydals. He was ordained to ward till he ather pay or set cautione to pay ten pundis. Compeired William Falconer for making three penie brydails in tbe space of twa wekes. Being decerned to pay ten punds and remaine within kirk wntill payment or securitie sould be given he most contemptuouslie rusched fourth at the door raping it too with force behind him, saying he scorned to be warded be fellowes. He was ordained to be charged befor the presbitrie.

21st August.—Issobell Maine to pay ten merks for making of penny brydals contrair to the Act of Generall Assemblie and Sessioune. Issobell Sutherland for making ane penie brydall to consigne tua cross dollars. Alexander Glas, fidlar, compeired for drinking and playing in the night one the viol to debosched men. He is ordained to ward till he set cautione not to play within the parisch of Elgin under the pain of tuantie punds.

24th August.—William Falconer ordained

by the presbytery to acknowledge publiklie his repentance of his scandalous cariage befor the Sessioun.

26th August.—The solemne publik humiliation and fast was intimate appoynted be the Generall Assemblie to be kept through all the congregationes of the kingdome.

16th September. — The Act concerneing receiueing of engagers and malignants was read.

18th September.—Issobell Gordonn being cited for duelling in a house allone compeired and is ordained ather to go to service or to go out of the parisch at the next tearme.

25th September.—Thomas Law is in Ros at the conventione of the brethren for taking order with some wnorderlie brethren. The officers to poynd them that were out of the the kirk till they pay 4s. the peace and the poorer pay 2s. the peace.

[Few cases now of going to ward by order of the Session.]

26th October.—Robert Watsone cited for fishing one the Lord's day. Robert Gilmichell delate for leading of corne one the Lord's day, is ordained to confess his falt in face off congregation at the pillar foot. Janet Hossack to be cited for grinding of corne on the qweirne one the Lord's day. She confessed that her bairnes did it but not hirselff.

30th October.—David Brodie being cited, compeired and confessed his falt in setting of kaill one the Lord's day. He is ordained to go to the pillar foot the next Lord's day and confess his falt in face of the congregatione.

4th November.—The session ordaines the belman to lok the kirk doores at aught hours at even and to open them at four houris in the morneing.

9th November.—Androw Man delate for biging a stak on the Lorde's day and for idolatrie. ordained to be cited.

11th November.—Act that all that war in

accessioun to the wnlawfull engagement against England or lat insurrection repair to the presbitrie and offer themselves to discipleine.

13th November. — The sessioun ordaines that none sit in the gramer school seats till the scollars be first serued.

16th November.—Janet Hossak confessed grinding corne on the qweirne on the Lord's day. The Sessioune ordaines her to the pillar foot the next Lord's day and confes her falt in face of congregatioune. Janet Forsyth to stay in ward till the visitatione of the kirk. Robert Hardie and Alexander Urquhart to go with her to the Chanrie kirk to sie where scho had buried hir bairne.

18th November.—The visitatione of the kirk to be on Wednesday next and the people to resort to the kirk as they doe on the Lord's day and especialie the elders.

23rd November. — Androw Man being sumoned for alleadged break of Sabboth in bigging a stak one the Lord's day and alleadged idolatrie in setting up a stane and wseing some superstitious ceremonies to it as taking of his bonat to it. He denyed the break of Sabboth bot he confessed he set up that stone to be a march betuixt his neighbouri's land and his, bot he deneyed any worschip or ceremonies used be him to it and offered his oath.

25th November.—Compeired William Man [and four others] They only knew that he set up that stone and sometymes when he went to it he took of his bonat, bot they knew not whither it was to the stone or not. The Session ordaines John Gordon and Androw Brander, elders, with four honest men, to go the morne and see break it all in peaces.

27th November.—The stone is reported broken.

18th December.—The session remits the tryall of the death of Janet Forsyth's chyld to

the Shereff. The Shereff being sent for compeired and promised to put her to the tryall of ane assise. The Act of Parliament concerneing the mantenance of the poor in everie parisch was read.

21st December.—All the housholders within this burgh and all the parisch be east Lossie to come in to the kirk on Tysday aud all the parisch be west Lossie on Wednesday to give up their names what may be had from euerie on for mantenance of the poor within the parisch.

23rd December.—These engagers was received : Alexander Dunbar and Thomas Dunbar.

1650.

Friday, 4th January.—Mr Thomas Law complaind that yesternight Issobel Chalmer while at publik prayer in the church rushed out with a marriage company in the midst of the last prayer. For this Alexander Dunbar is referred to the presbytery.

20th January.—The minister intimat that these that is not examined and these that wants tickets cum in the next weke and be examined and receive tokenes. The preparatione sermone to be on Satterday at ane efternoone. The ministers reported that by advyce of the presbitrie they have changed the lectour to Thursday.

25th January.—William Crombie, being returned from the sea, gifted to the poor 9 lib.

1st February.—Captaine Androw Leslie was received. His faltgoing one in the wnlawfull engagement.

17th February.—The wekelie examination was intimat to be everie Thursday and the people to conveine as they sal be warned be the officer and at the ringing of the bell.

20th February.—The session ordaines that two searchers walk one streits in tyme of preaching, the on two befor noone and the other tuo efter noone to have a cair th a be good order in the streits and t h

people keip the kirk and this ordinance to be continued alwayis heirefter.

24th February.—*Young boyes ordained to be belted.* The visitors reported that John Grant's sone [and five other boys] were all sporting in tyme of preaching. They are all ordained to be belted.

10th March.—The Shorter Catechisme intimate to be wsed be all and speciallie be schollars and maisters off families.

Delat Sabboth brezkers. Efter incalling on the name of God the visitors being enquyred of their diligence reported that Robert Kinard's wyff was in the Freir Kirk at hir prayers and that Marjorie Walker was bearing peats on her bak and John Rag's woman was bearing a burding. All these to be cited. The elders got their charg to see the Lord's day kept holie.

12th March.—Annas Innes, spous to Robert Kinard, being delate for going to the Freir Kirk to pray, being cited scho compeired and confessed scho zeid in and prayed for hir selff and hir bairnes, alleadging scho was not weall to com to the Kirk. Scho is grauelie reprehended admonisched not to doe the lyk againe wnder the pain of fyue pund everie tyme scho shall be found going their forby her repentance publiklie. Marjorie Walker ordained to the pillar foot. Jeane Brabner had gone to Kintrea at her mistres directioun for ane pect of oats the last Satterday and being not able to com home that night scho cam home the last Sabboth in the morneing. To confes her falt publiklie in face of congregation.

17th March. — The Generall Assembles ansuer to James Grahme the tratours declaratione was read be the minister befor the blissing in face of congregatione.

19th March —William Ross to have half a mark weklie to hold out the stranger beggars out of the toun.

24th March.—Robert Strachan was ordained to grie with John Duncan, wright, for making

a broad for gathering the poor's money at the kirk door and pay him for it.

28th March.—Ordaines the poor within this parisch to haue badges and Alexander Petrie to be spoken to for making of them.

7th April.—A generall fast appoynted be the Commission of the kirk for the hapie succese of the Commissioners gon to the King.

16th April.—Compeired Bessie Russall for travailling out of the toun on the last Sabboth. Scho said scho went not halff a myll to sie a neir friend of hirs that send for hir at hir last breath. The Session knowing hir to be a good kirk keeper and an honest woman scho was admonisched.

18th April. — Act of Session against travailling on the Sabboth. Everie merchand housholder or above that rank within this parische quha sall prophane the Lord's day by wnlawfull travailling sall for the first fault pay four merks, euerie prentice servand ane merk, everie shopkeiper ather frie or stallenger, 30s. and everie husbandman or woman two merks. For the first falt to acknowledge their fault standing in the body of the kirk, for the second at the ordinarie pillar of repentance and double the penaltie, for the third falt in sakcloth and treeple the penaltie.

19th May.—John Hepburne in Inerlochtie and Alexander Watson received. Their fault was going one in the wnlawfull engadgement against Ingland.

26th May. — A generall thanksgiuing appoynted be the Commission of the kirk for the glorious victorie the Lord gaue ws against his and our enemies at Carbsdaill the 27th Aprill, 1650 yeirs.

6th June.—The ordinance of the Committee of war was intimate: (1) That everie famillie schould eat bot two meales a day and the 3 meall given to the poor. (2) That all merchands and victuallers vithin the schyre sould doe their best to import victuall. (3) That no bear sould be made in malt efter this

without the consent of the Session of everie parische. (4) That no fischer sould be transported out of the schyre.

16th June.—The new psalme book intimat to be practised be all both in privat and publik.

30th June.—The visitors report that John Murray and his wyff was late coming to the kirk and they, being called, compeired and were rebuked. The ministers, with advyce of Session, have appoynted heirefter that ane lecture salbe everie Mondie and catecheising everie Wednesday efternoone by and attour the ordinarie dayes alreadie established. Generall Major Massie left tua cros dollars to the poor. The Session ordained them to be dealt presentlie to sax indigent people.

2nd July.—Bessie Harald being warned and cald for byding from the kirk scho said her husband was in the kirk and scho had ane seik bairnie whilk mad hir byd at hame. Scho is admonisched.

7th July.—Ane generall fast and solemne humiliatione at the appoyntment of the Commission of the kirk. The reassones of it: (1) for a blissing to the Generall Assemblie (2) For a blissing to his Majesties coming to the Kingdome (3) That the Lord wold save ws from the invasione of the Inglisch and for a blissing to the seasson of the zear.

18th July.—Such as salbe publiklie swearing or cursing ordinarlie ar be Act of Counsaill to be put in jogs set up in two marcat places.

4th August.—These declarationes following was read be the minister in pulpit befor the blissing:—The declaratione of the Generall Assemblie of the kirk of Scotland in answer to a declaratione of the Parliament of England wpon the marching of their armie into Scotland and concerneing present dangers and dewties in refference to the sectaries and malignants. A Short Reply wnto a declaratione intituled the declaration of the armie of

England wpon their march into Scotland by the Generall Assemblie of the Kirk of Scotland.

15th August.—The names of the gentlemen heritours within the paroch of Elgin who was intimate out of pulpit the last Lord's day to keip the randevous and to march from thence to the armie:—the laird of Pluscarden, Robert Gibsone of Linkwoods, Alexander Hepburne, James Hepburne, Laird of Pittendreich, Captaine Androw Leslie, John Watson, John Sutherland of Kelles.

20th August.—Eightie fyue pundis to be distributed presentlie by the Session to keep the poor in this their gryte necessitie [56 recipients].

25th August.—The visitors delate Alexander Steven's woman for bringing in water and byding from the kirk. Scho said her mistres directed her to wait on ane seik bairne. Scho was admonisched and acted not to byd from the kirk under censour of the session.

5th September.—Issobell Thomsone confessed she was from the kirk sundrie Sabbothes, and that she coft poisin, not to poison her sellf, but to mak a saw to cure a bairne. David Dunbar heard her say that it was in hir hand that would be hir dead and desyred him to com to hir buriall. Scho said to Issobell Jouking that scho had thrie elnes of claith to be a winding scheit, scho being drunken. Ordained to stand in sakcloath in the jogs and then to go to the pillar foot.

8th September.—John Inch in Pluscarden delate. His cloath mill was going sax hours at night on tua Sabbothes. He is ordained to stand at the pillar foot.

[Texts now begin to be recorded.]

22nd September.—The fast was intimat that was ordained be the Commissionars of the Generall Assemblie the 3 of this instant after the defeat of our armie at Dunbar.

29th September.—The Fast. Mr Murdo lectored in the morneing Jere. 14 cap. Mr

Thomas Law preached first his text Jere. 4 chap 14 v. his lector Jere. 4 chap. Mr Murdo Mackenzie preached efter his text Hosea 5 cap. 15 v. Mr Thomas Law lectored efter. Jere. 4 cap.

26th September.—John Young is to be warded this night and to stand tua houres in the joges the morne for byding from the kirk and swearing.

29th September.—Ane declaration be the parliament and ane declaration be the Generall Assemblie against the Inglisch armie was read.

6th October.—Second day of the fast. Mr Murdo's text 5th Hosea the last v. His first lecture James the 5th cap, His lecture efternoone Deut. 32nd cap. Mr Thomas Law preached efter. His text Micah 7-9. His lecture Hosea 14th cap.

[The system of electing elders yearly still continues.]

1650, October 27th.—Notorious scandalous persons ordained be the Sinod to be intimat against in all the pulpits of this province that nane have communicatione with them. William Grant, ane alleadged warlock, fugitive from Bellie, George Sutherland and Annas Keyth, obstinat adulterers from Duffes, Alexander Makentosch, excommunicat for rap and murther from Innerness, James Riach and Margrat Smyth, adulterers and vagabounds excommunicat Normand Duncan in the paroch of Ruthwein for bestialitie. All these following were intimate:—Fugitives from the armie to returne to their colours as they ar requyred be the order of the Comitties wtherwayes to be procest. Swearers, cursers, drunkards, prophaners of the Sabboth and all mokers of pietie to be punisched be the civill magistrat according to the lait actes of Parliament. That no mercates be keiped nor booth doors open in tyme of sermone or lectour on the weke dayes wnder pain of all hiest censure and some elders and officers appoynted to be

obseruars The King's letter concerning the levie was read.

[1650 Mr John Douglas, provost.]

29th October.—Christane Wilsone for buying fisch in tyme of devyne publik service the fisch to be confiscat and dealt to the poor.

31st October.—Issobell Car for revyling William Layng, baillie his wyff and cursing her to go to the jog at the second bell and at the third bell to go to the pillar foot in sakcloath with the myter on her head.

12th November.—Issobell Hossak to be cited to try wha charmed her bairne.

14th November.—Issobell Hossak called for causing charme hir bairne compeired and confessed scho send the bairne to her sister, Janet Hossak, and her sister took some stones out of a burne where quik and dead goes over and scho brunt the stones and did put them in watter and did wasch the bairne and cast the stones in the burne and the bairne was weill therefter. The bairnes name is Margarat Russall. Alexander Murray and John Forsyth, officers, is ordained to go presentlie efter the Session and bring in Janet Hossak and put hir in ward.

15th November.—Janet Hossak being in ward her husband Wm. Russall in Over Manbean is cation to present her under pain of fourtie pund.

19th November.—Janet Hossak ordained to ward and her proces reffered till the witness compeir.

24th November.—A short warning from the Commission of the General Assembly concerning the malignants now in armes was read be the minister befor the blessing.

28th November.—Janet Hossak being in ward and being brought befor the Session and admonisched was enquyred who bad hir wse the wasching with the stones. Scho said a stranger heiland woman desyred hir to tak a sup watter and thrie stones and put them behind the doore all night and wasch the

barne therwith and cast the stones and watter where scho took them wp on the morne and scho did so to hir sister's chyld and the bairne was weill therefter. Mr Angus Mackenzie said George Innes' daughter being sick, Janet Hossak cam in and bad give the bairne a drink of aill and a drink of watter and no more, and scho took the bairne be the arme and griped her puls and the bairne was weill therefter. William Duncan said ane yeir ago he found a peice of flesch in his corne rig and that yeir the corne grew not weill. The Magistrats at the desyr of the ministers caused put hir in ward wntill Mungo Douglas and his wyff sould be heir.

12th December.—Thomas Duncan reported that the said Janet hade put fyr in the first muk and that yeir the corne grew not weill. Margrat Scot denyed wasching herselff and Margrat Russell at ane poole. She raschlie took God's name in vaine and is ordained to the joges.

15th December.—The contributione for the prisoners in Ingland was intimat and the people admonisched and exhorted to deale liberallie. The visitors being enquyred of their diligence they reported that there was many beggars on the streits and at the kirk doores. The session ordaines ane officer everie Sabbothe to put the beggars of the streits and als manie as cumes to the kirk doors and goes not to the kirk to tak them and put them in the new hous.

17th December.—Alexander Petrie said that Alexander Innes in Oldmills told him that Janet Hossak's son being with him he belted him for a falt and he himself was seik half a year efter and the man that lifted the boy till he was belted was deaf efter. William Duncan said that David Taillor in Incharnoch and Androw Williamsone there sould want the schillok, alias fussion of there corne and that William Duncan and his wnkle sould have it. Item deponed that he heard Androw

Williamsone say that Janet Hossak sould a met with hir owne kowes milk going away from hir and that scho brought it home in hir aproun. David Tailor deponed that to his knowledge he wanted the schillok of his corne two or three yeirs together and Janet Hossak said to his wyff he wanted the substance of his corne. Issobell Catenoch three yeirs since in tyme of harvest heard Mungo Douglas' wyff say scho wanted hir kyes milk and Janet Hossak being besyd said if scho wold give hir a pek of meill scho wold help her to it againe, which scho got and therefter being enquyred if her milknes was mended scho answered it was mended in pairt and Janet Hossak said it would grow better.

22nd December.—A publik humiliatione and a fast for the sines of the kingdome. Text—Lamentations off Jerem. 3. 42. 1st Lect. Ps. 130. 2nd lect. Ps. 10. Text efternoone St John 19. Lect. Jerem. 12 cap.

Major Angus Sutherland was receiued being humbled and penitent for going on in the lat unlawfull and sinfull engagement against Ingland. The fast for the sines of the king's hous and famillie was intimat to be keept on Thursday nixt being the 26 of this instant December.

26th December. — Text 2 Kings 23. 7. Lector. Daniel 9 cap. Text 1 Tim. 2 cap. Lect. II. Chron. 19 cap. Lect. 2 Ps.

1651.

7th January.—Janet Hossak being ordained by the presbitrie to go to the kirks of Birney and Avas on the Saboth day and confes hir fault publiklie in sakcloath when scho salbe caled on be the minister and to com to the kirk of Elgin on the Saboth and confes hir falt and be received, was ordained to ward till scho set catione. James Gibsone is catione wnder paine of ane hundreth punds.

16th January.—Keipers of the 25 December: Leonard Pedder, Alexander Wilson, Janet

Fraser and Margrat Gordoune, being warned and caled, compeired and being qualified were drinking and cursing and sitting idle one the 25 Dec. last they are ordained to confes their falt publiklie in their owne seats when they sall be caled on be the minister the next Sabboth.

19th January.—The Act of the Generall Assemblie against complyars with the sectarian armie was read and intimate.

23rd January, Thursday.—No lector, both the ministers being in the landwart taking wp the names of the people for the examinatione and for going with the scrolles to the randevous.

Tysday, 28th January.—No preaching, both the ministers being at the Kairne of Kibboyak at the randevous with the scrolles.

3rd February.—David Wattertoun, sojor, is thought to be at Stirling with the armie. The elders is ordained to search for him and delate him if he returne.

2nd March.—The King and States' letter was read declaring that none that hed bein in ony rebellioun or accession to the lat wnlawfull engagement sould be receiued to be ane officer in the armie wntil they give satisfactione to the Kirk. William Weir was admonisched publiklie—his falt, holding or haueing his booth door open the last Sabboth.

11th March.—Walter Hay brought in of light money whilk he hade receiued from William Winster, late thesaurer, the soume of nynteine punds, of the whilk there is tuantie fyue schilling aught pennies copper money that is not pasgilt. The good money weyghes four wnce tua drop.

13th March.—The ministers are desyred to speak to the Shereff of Murray for the blood alledged to be wpon Margrat Ines, that a commission may be purchased for to put hir to a tryall.

18th March.—Rorie Makeny gaue in a sup-

lication desyring to be receiued for his accession to the insurrection and he being thought humbled it was granted.

23rd March.—The second day of the communion. Mr Thomas Law preached first, his text Mat XI 28. Mr Alexander Cloggie preached efter, his text the Song of Solomon 5. 10. Receiued: Rorie Mackenzie, his falt following his m. in the insurrection at Balvenie.

6th April.—Ane solemne warneing to all the members of the Kirk from the Commission of the Generall Assemblie read, with ane Act for censoring such as act or comply with the sectarian armie now infesting this Kingdom.

8th April.—James Grant and James Wilson, being latlie com from Holland, gave in ten merk everie ane of them to the poor.

4th May.—A schort declaratione or warneing to the ministers and professors of the gospell given at Pearth the 20 of March last be the Commissione of the Generall Assemblie was read.

19th June.—The first day of the fast appoynted be the Commission of the kirk for the sines of the land, the king and the armie. Mr Murdo preached first, his text 2 Chron. xiii. 13 and 14. Lect. Ps. 28. Mr Tho. preached efter Dew. 23. 9. His lect. Ps. 144.

8th July.—Alexander Murray's son for breaking of the glas windowes in the kirk to be belted and his father to pay for all the skaith he sall do to them heirefter. Leiutenant Colonell Lachlan Ros is granted the uppermost end of Alexander Hepburne's dask to sit in.

7th August.—Janet Wilsone to stand at the kirk door with the sakcloath and the myter.

24th August. — These excommunicat persones were intimat: Colonel Strachan, Lieutenant Grucan (?), William Dundas, brother to the laird of Redrie, Suyntoune, younger, Major Abernethie, these for betray-

ing the publik trust they had in the kingdome and complying and going in to the perfidious enemy.

31st August.—Fast at the ordinance of the Generall Assemblie for the sines of the kingdome king and armie. Short warneing and exhortatione read from the Commission of the Generall Assemblie.

9th September.—Tysday. This day no Session becaus of a rumour of the Inglisch armie.

21st September.—Sir Georg Monro receiued. His falt going on in the rebellion with the Irisches.

1652.

11th May.—Janet Grant for drinking with Inglisch troupers night and day. The Sessioun ordaines her to remove out of the toune within fourtie aught hours or els to be given over to the magistrats to be convoyed out with the hangman.

18th May.—Agnes Innes to go to the jogs the nixt Fryday with a paper on hir head and to be delyvered to the magistrats to be banisched. Mr Foster, ane Inglisch man compeired and delait James Dunbar ane elder for suffering sojors to drink in his hous in tyme of divyne service on the Saboth. The said James could not denie the same but said he could not help it. He is ordained to be publiklie rebuked and remoued of Session till the nixt election.

23rd May.—The Session ordaines that the women that goes to the stool their plaids be taken from them and the officer to be censured if he suffer them to have them heirefter.

6th June.—Agnes Innes and four other women to be banisched for offences with English troopers, &c.

15th July.—No lector, the toun being ryding their landmarks.

18th July.—John Dunbar, being com from Holland, gave to the poor's box 20 lib.

20th July.—Thomas Mitchell caled for setting plants on the Lord's day compeired and denyed. The tua millars in Pischopmill being witnesses the one of them said he hade plants and a drevill in his hand and the other of them said he hade plants in his hand. The case referred. James Winster deponed he saw him bouting down and up as if he had bein setting plants. The session ordaines Thomas Mitchell to go to the session of Spynie and give them satisfactione.

16th September.—Elspet Makgoun compeird. The magistrats ordains hir to be put in jogs and be cairted through the toun and to ward till then.

4th November.—Thursday. No lector, the ministers being in the landwart gathering in the collection for Glasgow.

1653.

6th February.—Tuantie punds given to a poor man that had his hous brunt caled Johne Ascher.

8th February.—Elspet Dun compeired and confessed scho was at the Chappell of Grace. Scho said that James Rob in Coats of Langbryd and Walter Mitchall in Hattoun was with her and James Hossak went with them and scho said scho drank once with James Hossak in Berell Ines' hous.

17th February.—Margrat Makaly, spous to Mr Murdo Makenzie, minister, is granted halff a seat.

[No contracts of marriage entered now in the minutes].

20th March.—Alexander Urquhart and others admonished for playing at the football on the Sabboth day. The Inglisch now being out of the toun the session ordained the names of the people of the toun to be taken wp and the examinationes to begin.

22nd March.—Tysday. No preaching, the ministers and the people being gon to the Lady Duffes' buriall.

24th March.—John Procter to stand at the piller foot in sakcloath with a paper on his head for break of Sabboth. Margrat Couper compeired and confessed scho was at the idolatrous chepell and wall and drank of the water. Scho is ordained to the pillar foot the next Lord's day in sakcloath and ane paper on her head declaring her falt.

14th Aprill.—The Inglisch being com to the toune the ministers can not have a pairt examine the peopie. This to be remembered.

1st May.—The session ordaines that there be no contracts bot befor or in presence of the session and that there be nothing sought from the poorest bot twelve schillingis.

21st July.—Margrat Grant, Lady Dunkintie, ordained to be intimat excommunicat the 2 tyme the next Sabboth.

15th September.—Janet Dun compeired. The magistrats ordains her to ward till scho be carted throw the toun the morne and then to ward till scho go to the stool.

11th October.—The magistrats ordaines Janet Gordoun to be carted throw the toun and banisched.

George Innes, son to Androw Innes, going to the colledge a bursar is ordained to get ten marks yeirlie so lang as he stayes at the colledge.

17th November.—No lector the Inglisch horses being in the kirk quartered.

24th November.—No session for vissiting the gramer school.

13th December.—The Act to be intimat against marcats on the weke dayes that there be no buying nor selling in tyme of devyne service and ane elder and ane officer to wait upon the fisch marcat that there be no swearing in the marcat.

1654.

23rd January.—Monday. No lector, the Inglisch pairtie being in the toune.

24th January.—Tysday. No preaching, the Inglisch pairtie yet being still in the toune.

19th February.—Janet Malcome is to be put out of the toun be the hangman be order of the magistrats.

2nd April.—Penitent received. Thomas Clark his falt, prophanatione of the Sabbath in sowing men's plaids together in tyme of devyne service.

Monday, 1st May.—No lector, the Inglisch horses being in the Kirk.

7th May.—Margaret Innes intimate excommunicate for slaughter on the Sabboth and prostitution of her daughter.

9th May.—Alexander Lie for spreading of muk one the Lord's day is ordained to the joges. The people of Mostowie admonisched for byding from the kirk.

16th May.—The carters admonished for going out with their hors to the gras on the Sabboth.

21st May.—Alexander Pigot admonished for byding out of the kirk and leading young boyes to the Chanrie Kirk to play their in tyme of divyne service.

28th May.—These that played at the kyles one Lord's day in Innerlochtie ar referred to the nixt Sabboth, when they were acted to confes their falt publiklie the nixt Saboth in their owne seates.

11th June.—Androw Leslie's wyff hes gotten the north syd of Mr Murdoe's wyffe's seat to sit in.

Women seem then to have sat in church apart from men, as is still the case in some parts of England, even in the nineteenth century.

25th June.—Wm. Crombie, marchand, compeired being cum home from ane London voage and for his safe returne he gaue fyftie marks Scots to be dealt to the poor.

9th July being the Saboth.—No preaching efternoone the Inglisch armie being cam in to

the toun befor the bell rang and quartering therin.

Monday, 10th July.—No lector for the armie. Tysday, 11th July. — Mr Murdo preached. Thursday, 13th July.—Mr Thomas lectored. 23rd July.—This day no session for a fray of Scots troupers. 25th September.—Monday. No lector, the Inglisch foot armie marching. 26th September —Tysday. No preaching, ane Inglisch pairtie marching. 9th October.—Monday. No lector for the Inglish armie.

19th December. — Effie Crichtoun with sundrie uthers in the Colledge compeired for drinking and scalding and flyting on the Sabbath. They confessed their falt. Agnes Brabner is ordained to stand at the pilar foot with her plaid about her.

1655.

15th February.—The session ordaines that no taverners nor brousters receive honest men's servandes to drink in their houses efter sax houris at night and especiallie one the Sabboth under the hiest censour. The session upon consideratione of heiring and seeing that many bydes from the kirk one the Lordes day enactes and ordaines that all these guiltie of this falt efter this day salbe delyvered over to the hand of the civill magistrat and to be fyned in their meanes according to the Act of Parliament and punisched in their repentance at the will of the Session.

25th February.—The gentlemen of Pluscarden was admonisched for byding out of the kirk and servands was admonisched not to sit in fordasks and the visitors' seats to be keped for themselves.

15th July.—It was intimat that the maisters and mistresses of everie familie soul com with their children and servands to the examinations, or, if they did not, they sould not be received to the Communion and abyd the hiest

censour of the Session. The Act against penie brydalls was intimate.

31st July.—*Break of Sabboth*—Thomas Watson and Christan Layng his spous for puting on ane caldron to brew on the Saboth at night the woman is ordained to go to the pillar foot the nixt Sabboth and confess hir falt publiklie. The man payed 20s.

2nd August.—Mr Whytchurch, a souldier within the garrison of Elgin, declares his innocence before the Session.

9th September.—James Gordoun, cordinar, for break of Sabboth, and swearing falselie, ordained to stand at the kirk door in the jogs with the sakcloath and the myter on his head.

28th September.—Jeane Dunbar ordained tua hours to the jogs for cursing of hir nightbours.

1656.

26th February.—The magistrates ordained the hangman to wheip John Anderson and Agnes Gilanders out of the town and they to be banisched.

11th March.—For fyve dailes and a spar to the communion tables £3 12s, also 48s Sc. to the wrights for making and mending the tables.

17th April.—The Session ordaines that it be intimate that no parents of childreine except on preaching or lector dayes, according to the Act of the General Assembly long since intimate.

29th April.—Elspet Anderson for scandalous conversation with the Inglisch troupers ordained by the Session and then by the Magistrates to be put out of the toun.

20th May.—Patrik Cuming, John Makay, James Mulikin and Alexander Paull compeired for wpsitting in the night and playing at cards. They were admonisched and if they be found doeing the lyk againe their names salbe proclaimed publiklie with the bell and be fyned be the Justice of Peace.

6th July.—The Justices of Peace Courts within this burgh was intimat to begin and they admonisched to be faithfull in their charge.

5th August.—These carters [five in number] delate for byding fra the Kirk. To be admonisched publiklie the next Sabboth, and all the carters' names ar to be everie Lord's day publiklie caled on out of pulpit.

Tysday, 9th September.—No preaching for the teinding.

19th October.—Cristane Dauidsone received from the pillar foot, hir fault byding fra the Kirk and being drunk and out of hir master's hous one the Sabboth at night.

Tysday, 28th October.—No preaching, both the ministers being at Forres at Mr Joseph Brodie's buriall.

Thursday, 25th December. — Mr Thomas lectored Job 24 cap.

1657.

6th January.—The people of Whytwreath (six compear) admonisched for byding fra the Kirk.

20th January. — Several admonished for ditto.

25th January.—Elspet Dunbar and Issobell Cook was rebuked publiklie, their falt byding fra the Kirk and drying cloathes on the Sabboth.

29th January. — James Stronach being desyred and caled compeired for being feared with witches, as was alleadged. He said he saw neither man nor woman bot at the Order Pot there was a gryt wind and he was once driven bak and it continued till he past the gibbet. He is referred to the Justice of Peace.

21st May.—James Young and his wife received. Their falt—brewing aquavite on the Lord's day.

28th June.—It was intimate that anie

that knawes anything of William Donaldsone for charmeing let them declare it to the ministers or elders.

Thursday, 25th August. — This day no session the touneschip waiting on the judges.

Tysday, 1st Septr.—No preaching. Mr Thomas Law departed this lyff.

26th November.—The Session ordaines that two elders and a wright buy timber to the seats and wreitting tables for the sang or musik scools. James Warden, belman, is ordained to get 10s fra the thesaurer whilk he debursed for candle to the sinod.

1658.

14th February.—It was intimat that the people of Blakhills sould go the kirk of Langbryd becaus they ar joyned to that paroch.

9th March.—Marjorie Man, spous to Thomas Gilmichael, skiner, burges of Elgin and gave in a bill desyreing the stap that goes in to the reader's dask to sit in to hear the word becos scho hes ane impediment in her hearing whilk the Session granted.

4th April.—The Session grant the merchands to strik out a door the bak of their seat where their window is with these thrie conditiones, first, that the vault be not wronged and the light not deminisched and the collection not hiudered.

22nd April.—Penitents received: Christan Air and Agnes Pakman—their falt brewing aqwavite on the Lord's day.

28th May.—Conveined the whole elders of the congregation with the Lord Duffus, the Laird of Pettendreich, Major James Hepburn, John Dunbar off Hillhead, Alexander Dunbar of Dyksyd, heritors within this paroch for the plantation of other able minister in the vaikand place heir. They ordaine to prosecute the call given Mr Alexander Car, minister at Grange, and for his gryter encourage-

ment they concluded that there suld be ane manse and gleib provyded.

5th August.—Thomas Innes was cald in and receiued clark to the session.

10th August, 1658.—Sessone and baptizme books receaved be Mr Murdo M'Kenzie from Mr Murray. List here given—(1) Session book 1584 to 1598 &c.

14th September.—For the dressing of the naprie 14s 8d.

1659.

Thomas Clark and Nous Patersone and John Piterkine compeired and did confesse that one the Lord's day in tyme of divine service they did steall ther maister's guids and ordained the nixt Lord's day to stand at the pillar foot in sekcloth and ane paper one their head schoueing they did open ther maister's lokes with wther keyes and did steall out drink and is ordained to confesse ther falt publicklie.

10th April.—Collected for the distressed people of Poland and Bohemia 124 lib. 4s 6d.

6th June.—The elders and heritors met and unanimously elect Mr James Chalmer minister Cullen. The presbytery of Fordyce refuse an act of transplantation.

23rd July.—Mr James Horn, minister of Bellie, elected minister of Elgin by the elders and heritors.

23rd October.—Thomas Conban gave in ane bill supplicating the sessione that they vold behelpe him because he was goeing to the coledge. The sessione considdering for his relations and his ovne guid carraige he is to have for tua years to helpe him at the coledge tuantie punds.

1660.

George Cumming, provost. The Session elected yearly as before.

1st January.—The visitors being inquired of their diligence delatit Margrat Dine for being

in the Chanrie Church in tyme of divine service and also Thomas Clark, James Watsone and Marjorie Geddes for vaiging one the streits.

3rd January.—Margrat Dine compeired and being gravlie admonisched be the minister confessed her sine in being in the Chanrie Church in tyme of divine service. Shee is ordained to be publicklie rebuiked in her ovne seat. Thomas Clark scharplie rebuiked. The deacons gave in ane roll of the poor that is within this broughe that they may have tokens to be knoune to be the poor of the toune.

8th January.—The ministers did inquire at the elders of the cariage of the people relaiting to the superstitious tymes. They declaired they saw nothing but guid order.

21st February. — It is ordained be the sessione that there sall goe ane elder to the fisch marcat to vait one ther that ther be no disorder in the marcat and sicklyk. James Wardour is ordained be the sessione to keip the church dores fast from nyn hours in the morning till night that ther be no disorder done in it.

28th February.—Colonell Rose did send in ane letter to the sessione for his breaking out of vard in tyme of divine service one the Lord's day suplicating the sessione to continue him till Whitsonday, which was granted, but the sessione has ordained to cause vreit out to Mr James Park to chairge in such persones as vas present in that tyme to vit Elizabeth Gordoun, his spouse, and John Rose, Cristane Rose, Janet Rynnes.

4th March.—Elizabeth Gordoun, Colonell Rose spouse and John Rose her sone compeired concerning her husband's breaking out of the tolbuith in tyme of divine service and being gravlie posed be the minister what she did to the officer she confessed that she did cast hir plead over the officer and did tak him downe to the ground and keiped him to the ground till he escaped. John Rose compeired con-

fesses that he did put his bak to the door, but he denyes that he did put his haud to George Gray the officar. The session hes reffered thes persones to the presbitrie.

6th March.—The Sessione hes ordained that Mr Murdo, Provost George Cuming &c. speak my Lord Muray concerning the fabrick of the church.

18th March.—Colonell Rose vyfe receaved in ane seat under the merchant loft for abuising of the oficar.

10th April.—The Lord of Muray is willing concerning of the fabrick of the church. Janet Patersone and Agnes Mathisone being charged for strugling the day of their mariage out goeing the church door compeired. The sessione hes ordained them to be rebuiked in their ovne seats the nixt Lord's day.

26th April.—James Readhead and others rebuiked in their ovne seats for vaiging one the streits one the Lordes day and intimatione maid ont of pulpit that uho sould be found in the lyk transgressione sould be condinglie censured.

20th May.—This day was ane fast and ane humiliation before the Sacrament and in respect our King is proclaimed King.

8th July.—Intimatione mead out of the pulpit that Tuysday being the 10 day salbe ane day of thanksgiving for the restauratione of the King's majestie to his dominions.

2nd August.—The session ordain that Agnes Sangster salbe putt out of the toun be the hangman.

16th September.—Agnes Corser delaited for bearing ane burden of clothes on the Lordis day to be charged against Sunday nixt.

15th October.—Ane declaratione read of the Kingis concerning remonstrance and protestatione.

1661.

1st January.—The sessione ordaines that it salbe intimat out of pulpit the next Lord's day that those who doe not conven to burie

the dead whoewer salbe found guyltie salbe punished condignly.

15th January.—James Thomas and Andrew Fairer to stand at the pillar foot in sakcloth for beating of other in tyme of diwyne seruice.

27th Jauuary.—Intimatione mead out of pulpit ar ent vnrewlie mariages and theas that does marie without proclamatione of the churche sall stand sex Lordis dayes in sakclothe and also he that maries them siklyk.

5th February.—So poor to wear ther tokens that they may be known by uther strangers.

19th February.—Papers given in against John Rine and his vyfe, Elspet Smith, and Margrat Murray and fooll Elspet commonlie called. The ministers hes desyred the magistrates to hold hand to tak ane course with them.

5th March.—The ministers and the provest and balies and the whole elders conveined in the Session house. Delation given in be Robert Hardie yr against John Rind:—"That wher upone Wendinsday was a fourtnight the said Robert and his wife, being at ane visite in Alexander Innes his brother-in-law his house and at his returne he fand the said John Rind in his house who was demanding something of the said Robert which he refuised to give and haveing ane chyld of halfe ane zeir old in perfect health at the said John Rind's coming to the house. Howsoone he went to the doore the chyld took great seiknes and did suell and wrought nyne dayes daylie and hourlie lyk to die and the said Robert being in susputione of the said John went to him and sent for him and housoone he looked one the chyld he therefter within ane schort space came to perfect health. This the said Robert Hardie did assert and declairs be his declairatione in wreit. So subscryvit Robert Hardie." John Rind being posed did confess onlie that he came to the said Robert's house and he saw a chyld lying in the cradle but knew not whether seik or haill and

denyed that he ather spack to or handled the chyld.

7th March.—Compeared John Rind. Asked if he was sent for to the child, admitted. Asked what he did to the child, denied any doing or saying to the child but he synned to the mother to come privatlie to the chamber that he might desyre her to put ane litle butter and black wooll about the chyld's midrayes.

13th March.—Robert Hardie passed from any further probatione but suspected the chyld had gottine wrong.

25th April.—Delation givine against Johne Rind be James Hepbrone of Miltoune of Innerlochtie of the speiches quhich he did heare Bessie Alwas speak of him before Williame Laing &c. The said Bessie declaired she wes cuming out of the milne and she met with John Rind who persuadit her to goe back with him againe and efter they haid come away about the Leavrick moise he went in to the wood and cuttit tua wands and desyred the said Bessie to stand ther till he cum back againe. And when he did returne he appeared to her ane thing lyk ane almerie and ane harrow one his head and afterward was in scheap of ane man which man he did speak with. All this tyme she was struckine dumbe and lost her speich till sche haid come most halfe ane myll and efter she came to hir speich she told him she could never goe so far againe with him because he was not luckie and he forbade her to be afraid and she asking him what man was he that he spak with and he desyred hir to goe into ane aill house and give him ane pynt aill and he wold tell her whom it was and she answerit she was not so mutch invailling and he said he wold not call her then, so she went home and took her bed and lay tuentie dayes bedfast and therefter in the tyme of her seikness he confest it was ane corceiced (?) minister he met with. It was not the first time.

April. — Commission given to Williame Dunbar and Williame Laing to goe to Quarrell Wood to bring the declaration of Janet Sutherland, mother of Bessie Alves :— Alsoone as the said Bessie entered within the doores and saw the licht she fell doune upon her face, so that she haid been dead in presens of the said John putting in the boll malt at the dore and the said Janet did lift the said Bessie and bronght her to the fyre and was ane long tyme before the said Bessie got speich and efter the said John cum in to get sume meat for fetching home the malt he did sit doune besyde the fyre and she did give him keall and meall and he eating or suping the samine the said John desyred the said Bessie to eat with him and she ansuerit 'God forgive you that hes given me such a fear that hes put me from meat and drink, for ye ar not luckie. I will never goe so far with you againe' and John said 'Ye neided not takine such fear iff ye had given me ane pynt aill, nothing then sould ailled you for ye saw nothing but ane man' and the said Bessie answerit and said 'It was not ane man but ane evill spirit, for ye are no ane guid man yourselfe.' The said John answered her 'Fear not, give ye haid givne me ane pynt of aill nothing haid ailled you' and the said Bessie took her bed for aught or ten dayes neither did eat nor drink and the said Bessie being so lang seik the said Janet went in to the said John Rind and reproved him. He said 'Ye neid not be feared for your daughter for she will be weill aneuch. If sh haid givine me ane pynt of aill she haid ailled no danger. If she be seik she will be weill againe.' The said Janet said to the said Johne 'I wisch it be so. Goe home, ye neid not say not more. I sall warrand hir for she saw nothing with me but ane man cloathed in black cloathis.' Bessie Alwas compeired and being confronted befor the said John to give her oath upone the said declaratione the said John wald not admit her because she was

both ane houre and ane theife. The said John being poissit confessed that he did meit with ane man and black cloathes, that he came to my owne house to aske the way ane hour and ane halfe before sune set cumming from the hill asking for John Bruice's house which I did schow him and that he haid his cloack one the gairds of his sword and efterwards he met that man with the said Bessie Cuming from the milne efter sky goeing too with moone light.

Delatione Alexander Mortimer in Hilhead of Birney against John Rind the last of Apryll 1661: He did goe into David Melin's house and that John Rind was one his knees and he presentlie rose up and he hard him speaking but presentlie he left speach and David Melline was lying seik and that to his certane knowledge he was charman (charming) the said David, all which was done at fyve acloack at night in the efternoone in the moneth of August. David Melline declared that John Rind cam to him and did grip his arme and his cuitts and did desyre him when he became weill to tak ane stalk of wormwood and it wold hald him from seikness. David Mellin's wyfe confessit John Rind did tak him be the lap of the lug and be the cuites. John Reid confessed the above. Andrew Kay schomaker confessed he hard William Donaldsone say that he was charmed be the said John. William Donaldsone confessed that he haid ane sor head with the megrum and that the said John griped his head and spak tuo or thrie words to him but he knew not what they wer. John Rind confessed that he did kast up his ey and said it was bloodrune and he sayes ther ar ane charme for all things except death but denyes that he spak the words.

1st March.—John Rind in Elgine being inquired giue ewer he charmed man, chyld ore beast denyes simpliciter. Being inquired anent a stone alledged to hawe ane wertew he

confesses that his wyfe gawe a whit ston in pledge of a dollor bot she gawe it back againe to the owner and maid no use of it. Elspet Smith his wyffe denyes all except only she recept of the stone in pend of tuo dollars and the man's name from whom she receaved the stone was James Mackfarquhar duelling with Robert Grant in Abernethie and being inquired if she maid use of the stone confesses that ane named Normand Dunbar in Findrasie maid use of it to cuire ane ox also to John Andersone in Kentrea to cuir ane cowe and did cuire none herselfe with it bot she told to these forsaid tua persons that the stone hair such ane wertew as the man who gawe it hed told her. She confessed that the forsaid persons keipt the stone ane weik and that she receavit it back and keipt it a year and then delyuered it to the forsaid owner in presence of Alexander Allane in Westfeild, Robert Allane in Newtonne, Thomas Ritchie in Kintrea, &c.

13th March.—Alexander Allane declared that he knew nothing of the giving it back agane but hard that the said John did stand befor the pulpit of Spynie anent the stone. Thomas Ritchie declared he never saw the stone but he hard of uthers that he was ane charmer. Robert Layng deponed that there was ane report that they were charmers. Normand Dunbar deponed that Elspet Smith was sent for and that she took a pynt of whey and did wasch the stone amongst it and took a belt that haid beine about ane dead corps and put it about the ox and did cast the whay upon him and being interrogat what coullor the stone was declared it was readisch colourit and that it was ane insch thick and towards thrie insch long and being posed if he haid it in keeping declared he never haid it in his keiping but the ox recouered therefter.

Delatione George Feldone upone Elspet Smith: Schoueing ther wes a chyld seik in ane house in Elgine and she did come to the

house and said that the chyld haid been verie long seik. She desyred that they sould goe to ane place and bring with them something and cast it in the chyld's face and she promised that the chyld shonld die or live within ane schort space. Witnes for proweing thereof James Naughtie and his wyfe. James Naughtie deponed she came to his honse and desyred him or his wyfe to goe to another laird's land and tak thrie handfulls of the crops of the heather and cast it in the chyld's face and they vill ather sie him die or live schortlie. The said James did enquire at her how she did learne that who ansnered to him that she knew that it hes doone guid.

The said day the ministers and elders conveined in sessione and the Blacksmiths gave in ane suplicatione for building ane loft at the end of the merchant loft and joyning to the commone loft which suplicatione being takine to consideratione is unanimouslie grantit to be for ther use and theis belonging to ther ovne craft.

27th March.—Elspet Smith confessed she saw the chyld seik in the pocks and being enquired what she thought of the pock she ansuered that it was a lipper pock and that she gaue ane pickle wormewood and let it ly besyd the chyld and that she did neither say nothing no more and did afirme under the hazard of her lyfe that she newer did speak of heather then at that tyme. Being posed upone the stone wherfor it serued she ansuered it serued for mutch guid and not for any harme and being inquired to whom it did guid she ansured that she gaue it to John Andersone in Kentrey once and that he gave the watter that the stone was amongst to ane cow of his and that she grew weill of ane desease called the dry darne. Sicklyk James Alchiner, being cottar to the Lord Duffus, cuired an ox with the watter wes amongs. Sicklyk William Eleis in Quarrallwood gave ane drink to his meir and she rewinet of ane

disease called the boats. Sicklyk being enquired anent the culler and quantitie of the stone she ansuered that it ves brounische culler and of the quantitie of ane thumbe of ane man.

George Martin deponed that he having refuised to wyne some cloath to her within 48 hours he contractit great seiknes which continewed with him be the space of tuo yeiris and more, the greatest pairt of which time he was bedfast and yet not recovered also affirmed that her husband was ane ordinary charmer, also declared that when he sees the said Elspet she tells him that ther neuer wes that discordit with her that ever sould thryve. George Marteine deponed that John Rind went upon ane Lord's day to Coldhome and charmed ane ox belonging to Francis Taylor.

7th March, 1661.—George Pattone deponed that John Rind said looking up to the sune in the said George yeard that the said John wes suire that he wold get his heart syth of everie one that wronged him.

5th of March, 1661.—Delation Thomas Gray against John Rind: Wheras the said Thomas sold to the said John Rind ane horse which horse within seivine weikes fell weak and when he and his wyff mett with the said Thomas they both did most feirfullie curse him and meiting with him in the feilds they told him that he wes ane ill holdine guest in the toune because he spoiled the communitie and the said John Rind replyed againe that he sould mak him repent that and within 24 houres therefter he becume seik and suelled and his horse schortlie therefter suelled and died and his mear fell out in bollis and died. Another horse therefter died and ever since himselfe and faimelie seik and all his means gone. They denied the cursing but Andrew Nicoll witnes proved it.

5th March.—Delation be Thomas Watson, butcher, against Isobell Cuming. It is said that she redd ower the new wall upone her

owne belt. Alexander Petrie declaired that his wyfe and William Laing and his servant Alexander Rusell did leave the said Issobell Cuming in Elgine when they went to Whutsondayes mercat in Chandrie 1660 and that they mett with the said Issobell before them all in Chandrie and speirit at her how she cam ther so speidilie, being so old and weak and she ansuerit that she cam there be boat, also at there home cuming they left her behind them bot they fand hir at Elgine when they came home althoughe they came with diligence. Issobell Cuming declaired that she was at the said marcat and that she stayed ther a moneth efter the marcat which James Grant wold clear. She denyes that anie bodie inquired of her how she came to the marcat so speidilie, notwithstanding wherof she therefter confessed. Thomas Watson (see *supra)* declaired that she said when she was charged before the session that she wold give ane pynt of aill to the man that charged her and that she knew a woman in this toune that when she went from hir husband to her randivoues in the night she leawes a bisome in the bedd in hir place and hings a peice flesh on the back of the door and her husband one a tyme saw the peice flesh and brunt it and it go up to the lumb and that the husband of the said wyffe fand her cuming back with her hair louse about her head and speirit at her give she was at the devil's service. She confessed. Agnas Chrystie was the woman and Lennard Pedder was the husband.

5th March. — Dilation against Margrat Murray be Magdalen Watsone: The deceast Alexander Cuik, husband to the said Magdalen being drinking in Patrick Crystie's house where the said Margrat Murray cam in with whom the said Alexander fell out in some words and the said Margrat Murray went imediatlie to the said Alexander Cook's house where she mett with the said Magdalen Watsone and told her because of her husband's

sayings she should make him repent of his speiches and so it was that within ane houre space he became almost speichles and within tuelfe dayes therefter he died and fyve or sex dayes before his death shoe being brought to him efter shoe haid drunkine with him shoe laughing said he wold be weill aneuch. Magdalene Watsone denyes that she said she wald make him repent it. She confesses that she came in to him when he was lying seik and drank freindschipe with him and did no more.

Dilatione Walter Chalmer against Margrat Murray: That Margrat Murray, suspect persone of the intollerable sin of witchcraft cam in to the said Walter his house upon the first Munday of the reath efter Lammes day and did most wickedly curse his wyffe to witt the deceast Bessie Smith and said unto her all the ewills that ever ouer took ane womane ouer take the. And all the reasone wes becaus the said deceast Bessie took up the tonges and did cast fyre efter hir. So ther within ane weie schort space efter shoe turned ane pitifull spectakill and died with the samine so painfullie so that shoe did ryve in thrie seuerall places of hir bodie efter her death as honest and famous Christians did wisiblie sie, all which the said Bessie declaired to the said Walter halfe ane houre befor his death. Margrat Murray being poised denyed all.

5th March.—Dilatione given in be Archibald Forsyth in Bischopmylne and John Innes his brother-in-law in Elgine against Margaret Murray that in anno 1660 the said Margaret Murray did witch the said Archibald Forsyth his wyfe. . . . Elspet Allan *alias* foole Eppie called, being delaited for goeing dancing one the night one the streits with aledged witches declaired that Patrick Littlejohn's danghter took her out of her bed and that Margaret Murray wes ther and ane black doge. The said day John Rind and Elspet Smith is referred to the presbitrie.

7th May.—John Rind and Elspet Smith being referred back from the presbitrie to the sessione they ar ordained to stand ane day in sackcloathe at the pillar in Elgin and ane uther in Spynie and to be put out of the toune.

9th May.—Issobell Cumming referred to the presbitrie

12th May.—John Rind and Elspet Smith his wyfe received at the pillar in saccloath for ther charming.

16th May.—Issobel Cuming to be put out of the toune and parochen and never to be received in it.

26th May (Sunday).—Fast before Sacrament.

29th May.—Collected be James Grant 59s. Mr James lectured 21 Psalme. Mr Murdo preached 10 cap. Ecclesia. 17 verse. No session be reason of the solemnitie of the day.

2nd June.—First day of Sacrament.

9th June.—Second day of Sacrament.

25th June.—Robert Taylzeour for hanging out zairne on the Sabbath day to be rebuiked in his ovne seat the next Lord's day. David Mealine and his wyfe compeired for not keeping the examine. He is ordeined to be rebuiked in his own seat. The session being informed that many wilfullie absented themselves from the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and also from the catechising frequentlie therfor they have ordained all such to be sensured be publict rebuik before the congregation for the first tyme.

27th May.—David Petrie to be rebuiked before the congregation for braking of the Sabbath in putting out of cloathes to dry.

1st August.—Agnes Joas to be rebuiked in her own seat for having ane excommunicate persone at her marriage.

Average of Sunday collections in September £4 16s 4d.

Average of Thursday collections 4s 10d.

Average of Tuesday collection 7s 4d.

The act anent penny brydells to be intimate and they that shall be found having more as six on the syd for any disorder they shall be found guiltie of the Act which is ten marks.

[No service in church on 25th December].

31st December.—The session grant license to Mr Thomas Gordoune, doctor of phisik to build ane loaft above Mr John Douglas desk in the south syd of the church above the doore that enters into the session house, seing God hes castne his lot be providence to live within this burgh.

1662.

29th May.—Collected 32s 8d. Mr James preached 29th Prov. 2 v.

21st September.—The Bishop preached Jerem. vi., 16.

23rd September. — Ane intimation read before the sessione in presence of the Bishop, provest, ministers, magistrates and elders of the session that the session should hold for curbing of sine.

28th September. — The bishop preached 1 Ep. Tim. II. 2.

[The bishop preaches almost every Sunday, and is present at almost every meeting of Session].

1663.

13th January.—Compeired John Glass and being inquired if he was married confessed that he was but could not tell the man's name. Being enquired who wes with him at his marriage, he said non but the mane that married him.

20th January —For church censure the session ordained John Glass for sundrie aggravations to go to ward and stay there 20 dayes and is ordained 48 houres in the stocks also tuo dayes on the stoole and ane day in saccloath at the pillar.

22nd March.—The sacrament of baptisme is to be administered only upon Sunday and Tysday and not to come to the minister on other day except there be necessitie.

19th April.—First day of the Sacrament. Collin Innes attends the taking up of tickets.

26th April.—Second day of the Sacrament.

29th May. — Collected 21s. The Bishop preached, 1 Sam. xxv. 29.

[No yearly election of elders now. George Cuming provost of Elgin. His son, William, is bailie.]

21st June.—The session grant to Provost George Cuming the roume tuixt the Counsell's seat and the S.W. porch doore of St Geilles Kirk for erecting a seat.

22nd September. — Mr William Annand petitions that his grandmother be buried beside her husband. Granted, but no more graves to be made in that quire at any tyme hereafter.

13th October.—The session grant licence that John Dunbar, bailie, erect ane seat in the roome betuixt James Hepburne's desk and the north church doore.

15th December.—8 merks given to Agnes M'Kenzie's son to help him to be ane prentice to ane tailzeor.

1664.

10th January. — Intimation given to the whole congregation of fugitives from church discipline (8 women and 4 men). Elspet Redhead ordained for calling George Duncan in Pluscarden a theife to stand at the pillar in saccloath.

17th April.—Margret Tamsone cited for charming compeired and being gravlie spokine to be the bischope she confessed that she haid charmed sundrie children and men. Therfor the sessione hes ordained her to stand at the crose with ane paper on her head on Fryday and to stand in sakcloth the next Lord's day

at the pillar and therefter to be put out of the toune.

29th May.—Collected £4 18s. The bischope preached 118 Ps. 24 v. Mr James preached 3 Ps. last v.

14th June.—Agnes Geddes for cursing compeired and is ordained to stand ane houre at the Meikle Crose and ane paper one her head upone Fryday and the next Lord's day to stand at the pillar in seckloath.

5th September. — Cristane Davidsone and Isobell Hosack compeired, confessed to the bischope they were at the chapell. To stand at the pillar the next Lord's day.

David Seatoune, bailzie, gave in to the thesaurer for his safe returne from Londoune 5lib. 16s.

10th October. — Beatrix Sim and Isobell Davidson to stand at the pillar in seckcloth for going to the chapell.

16th October. — Jeane Winster rebuiked before the session for goeing to the chapell wall. She said she was in Watoune and but coming by did take ane drink of water.

30th October.—Thomas Andersone confessed to the bischope that he was at the Chapell and his sone. They are ordained to stand at the pillar in seckcloth the next Lord's day and the said Thomas Andersone being ane elder is demitit of his elderschipe before the sessione.

1665.

The session enact the following penalties:—Swearing, Sabboth breaking, drunkards to be punished according to the Common Acts, for ilk mariage from servants 24s, from burges and tennents 30s and of persons of any qualitie above according to ther discretione, for proclamation of bands wher either of the parties are not parochiners heir 18s., for baptisme half a merk and 8s. from tennents and burges, for ilk testimonial directed without the paroch 6s and within 4s. Servants' testimonials free.

29th May.—Collected 30s. The bishope preached, 2 Book of Samuell 22, 48. No sessione this day.

13th July — Day of thanksgiving for victory over the Dutch.

[Texts are still given but the minutes are now briefer, a year's being contained within twelve pages in place of thirty or more].

5th September (Tuesday).—No preaching be reasone of Sumerive's faire the people being all at the marcat.

10th September.—Intimatione out of pulpit that the next Wendinsday be ane fast for plauge which is in Ingland.

13th September.—Being ane fast collected £3 6s 8d. The bischope preached Micah 5. 9. Mr James preached 1 Kings 8. 37.

25th December (Monday).—The bischope preached Gal. iv. 4-5.

[Monday was not a regular lecture or preaching day. This is the first instance for many years of a Christmas service].

1666.

21st January.—Intimatione made out of pulpit that James Archbald is excommunicat for bloodshed.

29th May.—Collected 37s. No sesssione that day. Mr James preached 126 Psalm 3v.

18th July.—Fast day. The declaration of it was read be the bischope. The bischope preached Ps. 33. 16.

6th September.—Day of thanksgiving for the victorie over the Dutche. The bishop preached.

9th December.—The visitors being inquired of ther diligence reported guid order [a similar entry weekly].

18th December (Tuysday).—No preaching be reasone of my Lord Duffus ladies buirrall.

Text on 6th August Job xix. 23, on 11th August verses 24 and 25, and on 13th August

and eleven subsequent occasions (up to 9th October) verse 25. From 16th October to 25th November text Job xix. 26 (8 occasions) Then three sermons were given on the 27th verse and six on the 28th verse.

30th December.—Thorontonne [Sir James Strachan, minister of Keith] preached Lam. iii. 24.

1667.

20th January.—Ane declaratione read out of pulpit of the insurrectione of the people of the west.

31st March (Sunday).—Fast before Sacrament.

6th April (Seterday).—Preparatione sermone.

7th April (Sunday).—Communion. The bishop preached—Solomon ii. 10. Collected 32 lib.

13th April.—Preparatione.

14th April (Sunday).—Communion. Collected £36 13s 4d.

7th May.—David Stewart, commissioner, petitions the Session for the emptie place betwixt Coxtone's dasck and Linkwood's dascke to erect a seat. Granted.

19th May.—John Ogilvie, maister of the hospitall, has receaved from Walter Hay ane band for fourscore punds Scots and that for the vse of the hospitall.

29th May.—Collected 22s. The bischope preached 2 Sam. xxii. 1. No Sessione.

12th June.—Margeret Ogilvie for hir miscariage done to Mr Thomas Law's wyffe is ordained to be put in the joges at the litle crose for hir misdemeners.

24th October.—The treasurer's accounts for three years from 3rd April 1664 to 31st October 1667 show a charge of £1057 10s 4d and a discharge of £1036 12s 10d by precepts and pentioners. Of bad money £6 6s 6d, which is delyvered to James Winster to be sold as broken money to the best avail that can be had for it.

10th November.—Intimation maid out of pulpit of Mr James Gordoune, minister of Glasse, is excummunicate.

15th December.—Admonition givine out of pulpit to Robert Paplie for his abstenacy in popry.

25th December.—The bishope preached, 1 Tim. iii. 16.

1668.

[The word tickets is always used for tokens.]

20th September.—Androw Adame receaved upone the pillar in sakcloath for his unchristiane carraidge towards his man leting him depart without doors at the back of his ovne house. The rest of his nightbors to be rebuiked for not contenancing his buiriall.

11th October.—Heline Hosack compeired and being gravlie spokine to for hir scandalous carraige in goeing with ane bairne to the priest to be baptized is rebuiked befor the sessione and hes payed ane dolor to the poore.

1669.

4th April —Collected to the distressed widowes of Brough which ther men wes lost be sea £66 4s 10d.

23rd May.—Robert Papla his third prayer intimat out of pulpit for his professione to popry.

29rd May.—Collected on the 29th at the solemnitie 36s. The bischope preached 2 Chron. 23. 3 and 13 vv. No sessione.

11th July.—William Robe for being excesar to ane man's death in drinking brandie compeired, and being spokine to confesses his sine in drunknes. He is ordained to stand at the crose one Fryday next betuixt aught and nyne houres and ane peper one his head and stand the next Lord's day at the pillar foot in

sekcloath and ane peper one his head and to be receaved.

3rd October. — Intimatione maid out of pulpit that the next Lord's day preaching to be in the new church.

10th October. — Mr James Gordoun pr. Rom. xii. 1. Mr James in the new church fornoone, and efternoone in the old church.

7th November.—Mr James preached in the fornoone. Mr Thomas Roo preached fornoone in the new church, and efternoone in the old church.

21st November.—Mr John Leslie preached fornoone in the new church, and efternoone in the old church.

26th December.—The Session grant to Mr James Horne the rume nixt to Major Beatman in the queir one the south syd nixt to the pulpit to build ane seat.

[A weekly entry—The elders got ther chairge to see the Lord's day keipt holy.]

1670.

[Preaching continues in the old and new churches by the bishop and the minister.]

30th January. — Suplication to my Lord Bischope, minister, and elders by Thomas Calder, provest, and his sone, James, desyring ane roome for ane seat. Granted the roome in the new isle under the pend a little and somquhat in the floor of the quire at the wast syde. The roome next to Provest Calder's given to Balzie Ogilvie. Roume next to John Ogilvie's in the new isle to Balzie David Brodie. The roume next to Balzie Brodie's to Balzie Robert Rutherford in the new isle, and next to Bailzie Rutherford is to John Chalmer, clerk, in the new isle, next is to Robert Donaldsone, then John Dunbar, merchant, all on the west side of the isle. Granted to Sir Alexander Innes of Coxstoune for ane loft and pewes for him and his tennents from the

window at the east north-east syd of the quire to the pend of the isle at the wast.

26th February.—Granted to Walter Innes of Blackhills for his family and his tennents the roume from the syde of the great window in the east end of the quire to the next window at the south, both to build pewes under and ane loft above.

14th March.—Roume next to John Dunbar is to William Cromie, merchant, next is to James Winster, then to James Spence all in the west side of the isle.

[Several more seats allotted.]

10th April.—Seat granted to Lord Duffus in the old church—ane loft above the meikle door to extend from the wast loft to the wast end of the Magistrates' seats.

[Some seats granted under the pend of the new isle. Bailie Stewart and others got rooms for seats on the east side of the new isle.]

29th May.—Collected £4 10s. The bischop preached I. Kings v. 7.

12th June.—Ane suplicatione givine in by the Taylors for ane convenient roume to be filled up by them for the acomodatione of themselffes and ther servants. Granted from the pend at the south at the wast syd of the new isle to the dore to be build and filled up by them.

14th June.—Ane suplicatione givine in by the Wyvers desyring ane roume. The Session did name and designe the roume next to the Taylors upon the wast syd of the new isl from the dor which is the entrie to build ane loft and to be filled up by them to the syd of the great window at the north according to the forme and paterene of the rest of the lofts erected or to be erected. The meiting endit with prayers, also with advertisment that the clerk of the sessione neidit not to fill up the severall texts of Bischope or ministers in respect it fills upe the buik unnesarly.

[Contracts now begin again to be entered. The form as follows :—"William Dunkane was contracted with Isobell Morese purposing mariage." No note now of the name of the preacher, or if the service is in the new or old church.]

4th September.—Ane suplication givine be the Glovers for ane loft granted from the old window on the north syd of the quire which they have maid ane dor of it to be ther entrie to the end of the quire at the wast preserving the south window for giving light to the pewes beneath to be build by them.

25th December.—The bischop prea. Luik ii. 17. Collected £4 16s.

1672.

29th December.—John Glasse and Ann Stewart being chairged pro 3o. and cited, did not compeir, is found obstinat, and referred to the presbetrie.

1673.

21st January.—Delait John Lambe and Alexander Mansone for break of Sabath in playing at the kards against the Lord's day. They are ordained to come out of their seats befor the congregatione to be absolued.

29th May.—No sessione. Collected 13s 4d.

1674.

19th July.—Ane proclamatione read concerning Conventicles of the dait the 18th day of June.

1675.

14th February. — The said day Thomas Ogilvie, merchant, hes givine in ane basone and ane laver for the vse of baptisme and sacrament for the use of the church.

16th March. — The bischope with the session of Elgin judges Cristane Troup worthie of banischment from this corporation and intreats the magistrats of this burghe to interpone their authoritie for her banishment. She is ordained to ward till the magistrats consent to the censure.

[The Bishop preaches frequently].

9th May.—It is ordained that William Nivine sould have for taking up of the psalme in the new church tuelffe punds Sc.

29th May.—Collected 16s. No sessione.

8th February.—John Torrie, wreiter in Elgin, suplicates the session for an roome to be filled upe be him in that place of the quire where the old staire stood which entred to the read (rood) loft in the old church. Granted.

6th July.—Janet Cuts and Kathrine Muray ordained to stand at the pillar the next Lord's day in ther ovne habit for scalding one the Sabath day the tyme of efternoone sermone.

13th July.—Visitation of the church.

[The session book closes 13th July 1675.]

This volum [volume 8th] contains the proceedings in session from July 11th 1682 to October 21st 1712 inclusive under the ministry of Mr Alex. Tod, transported from Longbryde and admitted at Elgin 11th July 1682. Mr Robert Langlands transported from the Baronie Kirk of Glasgow and Mr James Thomson, transported from Cottingtown and both admitted at Elgin June 21st 1696, Mr Alexander King (Mr Langlands having dyed 12th August 1696) transported from Bonnil and admitted at Elgin April 27th 1701. N.B. The minutes from 1685 to 1696 are wanting in this volume. [This note is in a handwriting of date probably after 1770.]

1682.

11th July.—The Lo. Bishop of Murray with the brethren of the exercis of Elgin being conveened at St Jeals Church efter sermone

hade by the Bishop Mr Alexander Tod, late minister at Longbride was admitted to the weighty charge and calling of the ministrie at the said church and to the benefice thereof according to his presentation therto be the Bishop of Murray undoubted pattron thereof as also they gave him possession of the said church by delivering him the key of the church door and of the gleeb and manse as is usewall in such cases and the whole elders compearing gave expres consent to his admission, in witnes whereof they received him by the hand.

5th September.—No sermone because of Simereves fair.

[The bishop is present at all the meetings of Session. A common entry now—The visitors reported good order.]

25th December.—Collected being Christmas Day £1 10s.

1683.

Average of Sunday collections in January, £4 14s 8d ; average of Tuesday's collections, 5s 8d ; Sunday collections in September averaged £4 6s 7d ; Tuesday's collections in September averaged 6s 8d.

27th May. Intimatione from pulpit of the 29th May being the King's birthday.

4th September.—No sermone (Tuesday) because of Sumereven's fair.

[Contracts are now regularly entered.]

2nd September —Read in the church the Counsell's proclamatione indicting a solemne and publict thanksgiving throughout the kingdome to be keept on the 9th September nixt being Sunday. As also the King's Majestie's declaration to all his loyall subjects concerning the treasonable conspiracy against his sacred person his Royall Highness the Duke of York and the Established Government.

14th October.—Collected for the harbour of Rosehartie £20.

1684.

17th and 24th May.—Preparation sermon. 18th and 25th May.—Communion. 19th and 26th May.—Thanksgiving sermon.

31st August.—Compeared Margaret Moris and denyed the abusing of the colectors, therfor the Session ordained that none of the pensioners nor any other poor should sitt at the doors of the church but at a distance therfra and in ordour.

28th September.—David Stewart of Newtoune, comissar of Murray, petitioned the Session that the accommodation aloted to him in the new erected Church might be designed to him and the place of his designed accommodation being filled up with a large desk sometime belonging to Mr John Douglas of Morristoun, who is withoutany representative. The Session ordain that to be removed to the S.W. corner of the church that a part of that room next the pulpit be allotted to the Commissar.

5th October.—Compeared being charged Margaret Frazer and after confession of gathering sticks on the Sabbath was sentenced to stand a day at the publict place of repentance and crave God's mercy and pardone.

25th December.—Collected being Christmas day £2 12s.

1685.

20th January.—No sermon till Thursday because of the Justiciary Court was to sitt. No sermon on the Tuesdays during their abode here.

22nd January.—Collected (being Thursday) at sermon befor the Lords of Justiciary nobells and gentilmen £4 14s. 4d.

25th January.—Collected at both churches doors the Lords Justiciary being present at sermon £12 17s.

29th March.—Collected for the town of Kelso, it being brunt with fire £40.

17th May.—Proclamatione read requiring the Freeholders and militia to be in readiness upon advertisement for his Majesties service.

21st June.—Act against children and servants vageing upon the streets upon the Lord's day.

9th August.—Read the proclamatione for securing the peace of the Hillands. Read the proclamatione for a thanksgiving to be on Thursday nixt for the defeat of the King's enemies.

11th October.—Read the proclamatione for an anniversary thanksgiving in commemoration of his Majesty's happy birthday to be kept yearly upon the 14th October.

14th October.—Collected at the solemnity £3.

27th November.—Act for building of four loafts on the north side of the church from the east gavell westward: (1) Alexander, Earl of Murray, ten foots (2) James, Lord Duffus, ten foots (3) The Laird of Grant, ten foots (4) The Laird of Coxtoun ten foots. These lofts to have only two pews without the pillars and as many behinde the pillars as conveniently they can.

[No minutes 1685-1694].

1694.

11th November.—Mr James Brodie, John Gill in Pedindreich and three others added as elders being admitted by Mr William Innes, minister at Carnoch in Fyfe by the united presbytery of Murray.

19th November. — The magistrates and heritors are to meet Fryday next and they desire the elders to be present for choosing of ministers to the congregation of Elgin, which they agree and consent to.

1695.

February 4.—Mr John Andersone minister at West Calder moderator p.t., and Mr John Brane, minister at Borrowstowness assistant. John Winchester, one of the elders, chosen clerk. Act for keeping sessions more frequently, they hitherto not having been kept so frequent as need required, the presbytery to be asked that ministers supplying the vacancie be moderators. The session likewise considering the sad and lamentable profanatione of the Lord's day both befor, in time of, and after public ordinances, they therefor judge it expedient that applicatione be made to the magistrats and Councill of the burgh seriously requesting them that they would give their ordinary concurrence which was in use formerly to be given in the place for suppressing the same and ordered their clerk to give in a supplication to the next Councill for that effect.

[No meeting of Session till April 1st.]

1st April.—Mr William Hamilton, minister of Cramon, moderator p.t. The presbytery has ordered the ministers who supply the vacancie here to keep frequent sessions. The magistrates consent and concur in setting apart a select number to be visitors for suppressing the profanation of the Lord's day. It is reported that some of the late Incumbents have baptised disorderly within this parioch. The clerke is appointed to extract the same and their commissioner to the next presbiterie to give in the said extract that the presbitery may be informed thereof.

8th April.—Mr Robert Wallace, minister in Baldernock in the presbitery of Dunbarton moderator.

15th April.—Mr John Paisly, minister in Lochwinock, moderator p.t.

6th May.—Mr Robert Stark, minister at Stentown in the presbytery of Dunbar moderator.

13th May.—John Glass, butcher, confessed he hade given up Bethia Panton's name to be publickly prayed for without her own knowledge and she being in health and, as he reported, the reason was because he heard her cursing and swearing, and in respect some of the magistrats were offended at the same they caused sett him in prison: he is appointed to appear next Lord's day before the pulpit and confess his fault and be rebuked for the same.

20th May.—Mr Samuel Charters, minister at Ennerkeithen, moderator p.t.

3rd June.—Mr Alexander King, minister in Binoill presbytery of Dunbarton, moderator.

1st July.—Mr Thomas Harvie, minister at Aughterdiron in Fyff moderator.

15th July.—Mr Walter Wilson, minister in the presbytery of St Andrews moderator.

28th July.—Mr John Buchanan minister at Cowintown moderator.

2nd December.—Mr Gavin Hamiltone, minister of Robertowne in the presbiterie of Lenrike moderator.

1696.

31st March.—*Act anent delinquents.* It was enacted that the delinqnents upon the Lord's day should enter the public place of repentance immediatly after the ringing of the third bell and continue there untill the blesseing be said and the women to have no plaids about them at the time the minister speaks to them and that day which any of them shall contravene this Act shall not be sustained as one to them.

21st June.—Mr Robert Longlands, minister of the gospell at the Barronrie Kirk in Glasgow and Mr James Thomsone, minister of the gospell at Collingtown enter the work of the ministerie at Elgin after ane unanimous call be the heritors, majestrats, councill, session, gildrie, crafts and commons of Elgin and the parochin therof eagerly followed and regularly prosecute by their Commissioners

and after it carried by the Providence of God by most votes in the General Assemblie.

Mr Robert Longlands and Mr James Thomsone by unanimous calls from the burgh and pariochin of Elgin did come to the said burgh Thursday the 18 Junij 1696 and entered their worke of the ministerie the next Sabbath thereafter being the 21st day of the said month and it pleased the only wise and Almightie Lord to try the congregation of Elgin with the sad dismall stroak and dark step of his providence to remove and call the foresaid eminent and worthie preacher Mr Robert Longlands from time to eternity upon Wednesday the 12th of August 1696 and was interred Tuesday 18th August, his last sermon being upon the 26th day of July 1696.

8th September. — Mr James Thomsone represented to the magistrats and session that he was necessitat to withdraw from them a while and proposed that they might be diligent in applying to the presbeterie to get the place supplied during his absence also that they would proceed as soon as possible to the calling of another minister. They promised to apply to the presbytery, but as to their calling another minister they intended not to proceed one step without his own speciall advice and concurrence.

From November 3rd until the 30th March there hath been no Session kept the minister being necessarly absent.

1697.

11th July.—Ane Act of the Privie Councill read from pulpit for a general contribution throughout the Kingdome for building a church to the Scots Protestants in Conenberg in Prussia. The elders are appointed to go through the town upon Friday next and collect the freewill offering for that effect according to their severall divisions viz.—John Innes and Andrew Ogilvie for the south east quarter, John Phimister and William Mitchell for the

S.W. quarter, Alexander Moor and Thomas Allan for the N.E., Mr James Brodie and John Winchester for the N.W. quarter.

15th July.—At a meeting of elders, magistrates and heritors Rev. Mr Curry, minister at Oldhamstocks chosen. John Gill, one of the elders, is appointed to go through the west end of the parish to collect the free will offering for the Scots Protestants in Conenberg.

[£71 16s 6d in all collected.]

28th September.—John Sinclair (and four others) reported to fish with spears upon the Lord's Day. William Mitchell and John Winchester are appointed to speak with them and if they be found so doing in time coming they will incurre the censure of the Church.

17th October.—The Act of Councill read for a public contibutione through all parish churches for building a harbour at Elie. Given for a winding sheet to the deceased William Calder £1 8s.

[Coffin not mentioned].

26th October.—Janet Mitchell rebuked for her breach of Sabbath in drying pladine upon the Sabbath day. James Chalmer delated for ordering his servant to carry water upon the Sabbath day to be cited to the nixt dyet.

2nd November.—James Chalmer compeared and declared that his servant hade no authoritie from him to take in water. The servant compeared likewise and declaring the water was to drink, and promising not to do so again was dismissed.

1698.

25th January.—William Bannerman compeired and judicially confessed the selling of his wife to Peter Morison but that it was only in droll and acknowledged likewise that the said Peter offered earnest and laid it down upon the table but he received non of it and that same night after eight a clock the said

Peter came to him when in bed and took instruments in the hands of George Sutherland, notary public. The Session finding this a case extraordinarie do think fitt to take the presbiteries advice. Jean Sinclair committed to prison untill she should find suretie to satisfie the disciplin of the church.

22nd February.—The minister reported that it was the presbiteries advice that William Bannerman for selling his wife and Peter Morisone for buying her both should be called before the Session and enjoined to appear before the congregation and be rebuked and thereafter to be referred to the magistrates for what punishment they should think fitt to inflict.

1st March.—The visitors report that they saw Jean Innes, spous to George Sutherland and some souldiers' wives vageing in time of sermon towards the Chanrie Kirk and when they were challenged they reported they were going to the church as well as they. John Phimister is appointed to speak to Jean Innes thereanent and admonish her and make report next session William Bannerman appeared last Sabbath and was rebuked before the congregation for selling his wife. Peter Morrison appeared not. They are both referred to the magistrates for further punishment.

15th March.—John Phimester reported that Jean Innes was going to the Chanrie Kirk, Sabbath, 27th February, to see the grave of her late deceased husband and promised not to be seen in time of sermon that way again. Peter Morisone appeared Sunday, 6th March, and was rebuked before the congregation for his unchristian bargaining in buying his neighbour's wife and referred to the magistrats for further punishment.

22nd March.—It is thought fitt that the minister go to the Town Council the next time they shall sit after this and require some of the Magistrats to sit in session always with us.

[Colonel Rew's regiment is now in Elgin.]

19th April.—A collection to be upon Sunday next for building a bridge upon the river Cart [£15 Sc. collected.] The magistrats appointed that one of their number should sitt in session monthly and Robert Innes one of the baillies did enter for the first month. Isobell S. by order of the magistrates set upon the cockstooll for the space of ane hour and banish'd the town by tuck of drum.

3rd May.—Bailie Donaldson petitions the session against Gavin Watson, late Convener, for defaming him. The Session finding that tho Commissar had pronounced sentence that the said Gavin should appear before the congregation upon a Sabbath day after forenoon's sermon and make publick confession of his fault and beg God and the partie offended pardon do think fitt to referr to the presbyterie for advice whether it be proper for them to execute a sentence pronounced be the Commissarie.

7th June.—The presbiterie advise that the session concerne not themselves with what sentence the commissarie hath decreed but that they proceed *de novo.*

2nd August.—Reported that the gardners in the town use frequently to vend and sell kale, fruits and roots upon the Sabbath day. The officer is appointed to cite them to the next dyet.

11th September.—National fast and humiliation.

25th October.—The Taylors and Weavers in Elgin did supplicat the session for a convenient seat or loft to them in the High Church there. The Session condescended to allow them a loft above or behind the Merchants, but referred the full determination thereof to a generall meeting of all concerned.

Collected at the church doors for the poor, 27th September, 1691, to 16th January, 1698, £1719 17s 4d Sc.

14th November.—Meeting of the Magistrats, Town Councill, heritors and members of the Kirk Session for regulating and ordering the desks and seats of the High Church of the said burgh. An additional seat granted to William King of New Mill, provost of the burgh. Act for building six pews in the bodie of the church beginning from the west side of the latron and proceeding westward graduallie to James Young, glover etc. These six pews to be removed at the time of the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and not to be fixed again until the action be fully over. The seat is granted to Walter Innes of Blackhills that belonged to Douglas of Spinie. Seats granted to Jonathan Forbes, M.D., &c. The session enact that all who get seats from the session pay and satisfie such as have any just title or right to the said seats, &c., for the timber and building of the samen.

21st November.—Robert Blenshill, deacon of the Taylors, and John Purse, for the Weavers, presented a petition jointly in name of their severall crafts showing that they were considerable incorporations in the town and have no settled accommodation in the said church and humbly desired the meeting would be pleased to allow them some room in the church as they should think most convenient to build a seat or loft for their better accommodation in attending the ordinances. The meeting considering that there was a vacant room at the back of the Merchants' loft where they might commodiously build a loft under the steeple did unanimously consent to grant libertie and hereby allows the said two crafts to build a loft there which they are to divide betwixt them as they shall agree among themselves and moreover they are allowed to make use of the timber of the old red [? rood] loft to help to build theirs providing they build upon their own expense a convenient stair to go up to the steeple. The meeting taking to their consideration the gratitude and

good services done to this incorporation be the deceased Provost Cummyng and William Cummyng of Achry his sone and particularly the mortification made be the said William Cummyng to the said burgh and communion cups given be him to the said burgh therefore the meeting *unâ voce* do ratifie their right to the seat and desks in the south side of the church pertaining to the said Provost Cummyng and gives and confirmes the samen to the said William Cummyng of Achry. There was a petition given in be the Shoemakers of the said burgh shewing that their loft in the said church was so eclipsed since it was built that they could neither hear nor see the minister and humbly craved that they might have libertie to advance their loft so far as they might hear and see him who preached. Granted. A room in the body of the church to be granted to William Gordon of Fasken, merchant in Elgin. Enacted that such as have got seats and not contributed to the rebuilding of the church now pay in their contributions towards the repaïring of the windows and to falls.

22nd November. — The treasurer has £11 4s. 6d. Sc. of dytes and Irish half pennies.

1699.

28th March.—Act for a seat to be built by Thomas Brodie of Pitgevnie in the body of the church.

18th April.—The Much Honoured Major Bethasar Guydett has left two duket Downs (?ducatoons) upon his going south to be distribute to the poor.

23rd April.—John Souter, deacon of the Wrights in Elgin presented a petition in name of the said craft desireing libertie to build a loft in the High Church above the Glovers' loft. The Session thought fitt to delay it in regard the Glovers pretended it would be prejudiciall to them as to their sight and hearing.

30th May.—John Hay, weaver, his wife delated for carrying water upon the Sabbath day. To be cited to the next Session. 13th June.—John Hay's wife being called the said John compeired and intreated his wife might be excused because she was waiting upon her sister who was lying sick at the time and told that the water which she was carrying upon the Sabbath day was for her sister to drink whereupon she was excused and no further to be troubled upon this account.

26th September.—James Roy, wright, to get 12s Sc. for making two leafs for the bason stools.

1701.

29th April.—Mr Alexander King, minister at Bonnill, presbytery of Dumbarton called to be minister of Elgin. An Act of transportation passed by the General Assembly for this. He came to Elgin on 24th April 1701 and entered his work of the ministrie on 27th April.

William Ramsey, perug-maker rebuked for drinking &c.

5th August.—Recommended to John Winchester and Thomas Allan, elders, to go down to the Lady Pluscarden's house and require testifications from some stranger women there residing or desire them to remove from this place. 19th August.—The elders report that the strangers are now removed.

1702.

James Forsyth, glasier, agrees to uphold the glass windows of both churches for £20 Sc. per annum, the lime and glass bands being furnished by the session.

30th March.—The Lady Linkwood imprisoned by the magistrates' orders until she make a full confession to the session. She escapes out of prison. The case referred to the presbytery for advice.

30th June.—The session think fit that application be made to the magistrates for corporal punishment to Agnes D. for being frequently drunk in regard they think her not fitt to appear befor the congregation.

11th August.—Application to be made to the civil magistrate to remove six women from this town and paroch. 25th August.—Janet Rind put out of the toun by order of the magistrates. Intimation to be made from pulpit that servants be restrained from vageing upon the street and in the fields and children from playing upon the Sabbath days.

29th September.—Collection next Lord's day for William Gray, taylor in Colledge and Margaret Anderson their houses being lately brunt.

[£11 4s 4d collected.]

1703.

20th July.—Grisel Wilsone appointed to appear before the congregation and be rebuked for calling her honest neighbour Isobel Cock a witch.

12th October.—*Pensioners Abridged of their Pensions.*—The Session considering that in regard the congregation is of late divided by reasone of ane Episcopall minister his intrusione into one of the churches so that our weekly collections are not so much as formerly therefor we are obleidged to abridge the pensioners of their former pensions and whereas there are 19 pensioners. each of them formerly haveing ten s. Sc. per month there are now six of them who are to receive only 6s. Sc. and the rest 10s. Sc. as before and all of them to receive their payment but once in six weeks.

9th November.—Paid to James Russell and James Watsone £6 Sc. for going through the paroch lifting the people's names and calling them in to the examination.

1704.

30th July.—Intimation that Thursday next should be observed as a day of humiliation and fasting by all such in the town and parioch of Elgin as intended to communicate and that there should be sermon both before and afternoon and likewise preparation sermon on Saturday next at twelve at noon. Monday a day of thanksgiving.

1705.

19th February.—The Session considering the great loss the commons people were at for want of the publick reading in the church doe appoint their clerk to begin next Sabbath day to read before sermon betwixt the second and third bell both before and afternoon and so to continue each Sabbath thereafter for which he was to have what sallarie or casualties any of his predecessors hade befor.

Isabella Priest, spous to Robert White, accused of calling Agnes Falconer, spous to John Bell, merchant, a witch and that through her witchcraft she should occasion the death of John Smith, merchant, and of his cow. She is ordered to beg God's pardon and to beg pardon of Agnes Falconer.

16th July —Marjorie Baxter, spous to John Davidson, to appear before the congregation for calling Isobel Thomsone a witch and that she was the occasion of the death of Bailie Russell. The session apply to the magistrates to set Isobel Taylor upon the cockstool and banish her from the town.

1707.

23rd December. — The magistrats have banished Agnes M'Intosh.

1708.

8th June.—Jean P. being recommended to the Magistrates and Justices of Peace to be banished as a most disingenious and notoriously scandalous persone she was upon the 21st day of May last set upon the cockstool betwixt the hours of eleven and twelve

in the fornoon as a publick spectacle, and thereafter taken down and bannished the town by tuck of drum.

1709.

29th March. — Letters patent from the Queen for a voluntary contribution throughout Scotland for some people in the Cannongate of Edinburgh who had sustained great loss by fire. The elders to collect from door to door. [£39 9s 8d Sc. collected].

9th June.—The session appoints for the Communion: at the doors: John Winchester and James Alves at the west gavil door, James Cramond and Alexander Dick at the big north door, Robert Tarras and Alexander Forbes at the isle door, Thomas Allan at the litle door where the ministers enter. The other elders to receive the tokens, &c. The Session choose James Cramond for their clerk.

1710.

25th April.—The elders are appointed to go through the several quarters of the town and take up the names of all scandalous persons and such as want Testimonials.

13th June.—Intimation to be made from the pulpit to cause masters of families see their servants have testificats and to charge such as hath none to the next Session.

15th August.—Servants who produced no testimonial nor appeared are to have their fees arrested at the Bailies' orders by a town and kirk officer and to be summoned to the next session. The session appoints James Alves and John Sutor to go through the town next Sabbath with James Tayliour, officer, to take notice of these that break the Sabbath either by drinking in change houses or walking idly in the fields or streets. Two elders with the officer appointed for the following Sabbaths.

24th October.—20s sterling offered to any person that would find out the mother of the child laid down at the Lady Pluscarden's gate.

1711.

20th March. — Convened Mr Alexander

King and Mr James Thomson, ministers of Elgin and the Bailies of Elgin as patrons of John Innes of Darklin his mortification of Shutting Ackers in as far as concerns the parish of Elgin. The rent of the said mortified lands possest be James Geddes, crop 1709, was £46 17s 6d Sc. and 9 b. 1 fir. 2 pks. victual, which sold at £5 per boll so that the said year's rent extends to £93 15s Sc.

1713.

Communion collections : 11th June £12 4s ; 13th £9 ; 14th (Sunday) £71 ; 15th £9. Collections in September : 6th £7 10s ; 13th £5 14s ; 20th £3 12s ; 27th £3 16s. The Tuesday's collections in September averaged 15s 3d.

1714.

Blank from 1st August 1714 to 8th March, 1715.

1716.

No Session between 24th January and 13th March because of the confusion of the tymes the Session could not meet sooner.

1717.

20th May.—The Session stent the heritors and others for repair of the north and south too-falls of St Giles' church ; Wright £118 slater £16 total £223.

6th August.—The Session assign the seat to James Cramond, town and church treasurer, that belonged to the deceased John Winchester, merchant.

22nd December.—£52 5s 4d Sc. distribute to the poor from Darklen's mortification.

1718.

11th November. — Compeared Christian Robertson who being convict of gathering of lint on the Lord's day in the morning the session appoints her to appear in the entry from the west door next Sabbath to be publickly rebuked for the said scandal.

23rd November.—Collected for the distressed Protestants of Lithuania £9 7s 6d sterling.

1719.

[The Communion is held once a year, namely, in July].

23rd June.—Such as designe to communicate on the north side of the town to come and speak to Mr Primrose and those on the south side to Mr Thomson and those in the country to come to either of them.

23rd December.—The rent of the Shutting Acres, crop 1718, deducting cess, &c., is £58 10s Sc., the half of which belongs to the poor of the town and parish of Elgin. The annual rent of 700 merks mortified by Darklen to the poor of the town and parish for the year extends to £23 6s 8d Sc. total £52 11s 8d Sc. Eighty-one persons receive from 4s to 12s each.

1720.

28th February.—Collected for the bridge of Nairn £8.

11th May.—The Session appoints that one of the elders with those that stand at the basons goe through the town every Sabbath after sermon to see that there be no abuses.

1st August.—Bailie Cramond to agree with William Forsyth to help the windows of the litle Kirk.

1722.

20th December.—Fifty merks to be distribute among the poor and indigent within the town of Elgin, being the annual rent of 1000 merks Sc. mortified by the deceased Alexander Dick, glover in Elgin.

1723.

28th April.—Collected for the erection of Kirks in Durness £27 15s 8d.

1724.

7th December.—William Duff of Braco did leave to the poor within the barony and lands of Pluscarden and the lands of Quarrywood and Dykeside £1000 Sc. The interest only to be distributed.

1725.

7th February.—Collected for the Protestants in New York £35.

6th April.—The Session being told that their officers did refuse to put Isoble R. in the joggs appoints them in all time comeing to put any in the joggs those the session or baillie desire under penaltie of being discharged from their office.

1727.

14th March.—The Session have subscribed a call to the Rev. Mr Joseph Sanderson, minister of the gospel at Alves to be one of their ministers. He is admitted 2nd May by the unanimous consent of the whole congregation. The Session recommends it to the members of there number who are of the Council to represent to the Council the case of the litle kirk that it might be helped as to the roof and glassen.

1728.

January.—Materials are being provided for repairing the litle kirk in spring.

11th June.—Dr Thomson's father, minister of Elgin, bequeathed 600 merks Sc. the interest to buy bibles to such children as could read and their parents not able to buy for them.

4th October.—The Session appoints two flaggons to be bought for the communion a bigg and a litle one, also the hearses to be mended and scoured and the kirk treasurer to prepare candles for the hearses, pulpit and letron.

17th December.—Robert Gordon has mortified 100 merks Sc. to be lent out for the use of the poor aged over 70 and the interest paid to such poor.

1729.

13th February.—£5 5s given by the Duke of Gordon's factor to be distribute among the poor.

3rd August —Collected for the harbour of St Andrews £15 14s 2d.

31st July.—Vacancy by the transportation of the Rev. Mr Primrose.

29th September.—The Session prosecute the transportation of Rev. Mr Winchester, minister of Auldern, to be one of the ministers of Elgin.

1730.

Given to James Gow, schoolmaster at Inverlochtie as his salary for the year £3 Sc.

5th May. — Rev. Mr James Winchester admitted.

11th August.—It was represented that the Lord's day was greatly profained by people their gathering together and making a noise under forstairs Means for putting a stop to such abuses are to be thought upon. Meantime it is appointed that those that attend the basons do take a turn through the town and report such as they find guilty this way.

29th December.—The Session considering the great loss the poor sustains by the currency of bad money and that there is a great quantity of such coin thrown in to the bassons upon Sabbath and week days appoint intimation to be made next Lord's day from the pulpit that the people may put in such money as can be of use to the poor and in the meantime appoint such of the elders as are members of the Town Council to apply to the Council to put a stop to the currency of bad coin.

1731.

The treasurer was appointed to cause make 200 Communion tokens.

13th July.—The Session finding that the roof and floor of the big church needs reparation they appoint this affair to be laid before the Town Council at their first meeting by Thomas Purse elder, that they may see to the reparation in due time nor can there be any inconvenience to the congregation in carrying on the work since the little church being now repaired they can be accomodate there on the week days. Collections in September from

£4 8s to £5 4s 6d each Sunday of which bad coin varied from 3s to 6s. Collected on Communion Sunday in October £48 3s of which 19s is bad coin. The sacrament now held twice a year.

1732.

Mr William G rdon, master of the Grammar School. George Court, silversmith. Paid to David Falconer for tokens £11.

3rd October.—It is recommended to such of the elders as are upon the Council to apply to the Magistrates for so many candle as will be necessary for giving light in the church in the evening of the Sacrament day and to crave that hanging locks and barrs may be put upon the two bigg doors of the church.

26th December.—The two ministers with Bailie Wilson and James Garden appointed to wait of the magistrates and concert with them anent an expedient for preventing the profanation of the Sabbath by drawing of water etc. and for putting a stop to penny weddings.

1733.

19th January. — The Honourable Magistrates assure the Session of their assistance for punishing the profainers of the Lord's day by drawing water, buying herbs, winnowing of knocked barly, wandering through the streets and fields and idling under forestairs before, in time of, or after public worship and for that end proposed that when any are found guilty they be pursued before the toun Court. Alexander Lobb n confessed he baptized his child but not the right way because he did it himself on the side of the hill called Benegn through ignorance, the mother of the child and Ann Hay in Whitewrea being present, and the reason why he went not to a minister with the child to be baptized was that he thought none would do it because he went to Broomhall to be married. They were married by Mr Youngson in Glenmarkie, Mortlach.

1st March.—Visitors appointed to inform the Session of such as upon the Lord's day are found idle upon the streets or fields frequenting ale houses and gardens, drawing of water and such like wordly and sinfull employments inconsistent with the duty of the Sabbath. The town to be divided into three parts each of which is committed to the oversight of two at a time and they to be relieved by other two in some more than an hour.

13th March.—The visitors of the town Sabbath last gave in the following report:—(1) Bailie Wilson and Robert Walker reported that in their quarter they found George Buie's wife drawing water and William Barrie winnowing knocked barly; (2) James Milne reports that in time of publick worship he found a servant of Robert Gordon, hyrer, sifting chaff; (3) William Mitchell reports he found a servant of James Leslie's winnowing knocked barly; (4) Thomas Purse and John Chisholme report that they found Thomas Simson's lass winnowing barly; (5) John Shaw reports he found Margaret Nicol winnowing barly. The Session appointed their Clerk to give an extract of the above reports to James Young, town fiscal, that they may be conveened before the Town's Court to-morrow.

26th June.—£19 15 Sc. of bad coin rouped for 6s Sc. per lb weight.

[A witness deponed he met a person "near the Ordor Pot a little eastward of the East Port."]

The Session agree that Alexander Allan, who keeps the school at Pluscarden get his sallary £4, James Gow, schoolmaster at Inverloughtie £3.

1734.

March 19th.—Duncan Greggor referred to the presbytery for being a charmer, at least repute so. The Moderator represented that Duncan Greggor in Muirtown having applyed to him for baptism to his child he delayed it

and appointed him to be summoned to this dyet being habite and repute a charmer. Compeared Duncan Gregor who acknowledged that he cured the feavers in the following manner viz that he run some lead over the head of the distressed person poured it into cold water saying Rise up, heart, in the name of the Father. Son and Holy Ghost, and that if the feavers lay not about the heart the lead rose up in the water in the form of the heart of a fowl and so the person was cured, but if the feavers lay about the heart the lead appeared in another shape and to carry off the disease he did cast it again and by degrees the trouble wore off. He refused his curing of any other diseases but by the use of herbs either taken inwardly or applyed outwardly. The Session referred him to the next meeting of presbytery at Longbride.

May 9th.—Rev. Mr Lachlan Shaw admitted to the pastoral charge of the town and parish of Elgin.

For helping of the sand glass 12s.

1735.

January 7.—The moderator reported that Duncan Greggar attended the last meeting of presbytery and confessed he was wont to use charms for curing of hectick feavers and that he engaged before the presbytery no longer to use these incantations, whereupon he was rebuked and dismissed.

12th August.—Rev. Mr Alexander Irvine transported by the sentence of the General Assembly from Auldern to be one of the ministers of Elgin admitted this day.

30th September.—To the support of a minister to a Protestant congregation in Virginia £3.

1736.

Isobel Kelly rebuked before the session for winnowing barly bear on Sabbath.

27th April.—The two ministers were appointed to meet with Mr Tuach, preacher of the gospel at Pluskarden and to distribute

among the poor in that corner of the parish the Dominical collections at Netherbyre since Mr Tuach's entrie [£17 15 10d collected].

2nd July.—Intimation to be made from the pulpit Sabbath next that none either buy or sell anything in gardens on the Lord's day.

Yearly payment to the beddals for shoes £4.

1737.

Mr Shaw reported he had preached at Pluskarden and had publickly rebuked Oliver Young and Robert Phimister in Netherbyres for fidling and dancing at Alexander Buie's lykewake. The others present were rebuked sessionally. James Garden chosen Session Clerk in room of Alexander Roust deceased. The minutes of session for eight years backward have not been filled up in the Register. Paid for coffin to James Cumming's wife £2 Sc. The session resolve not to bestow more than half a crown towards the burying of any of the poor dying in town or country.

July 19. — Alexander Nicol was under indenture to go to Georgia but having revolted was now absconding.

16th August.—The session commence a process before the Commissary to compel Alexander Roust to deliver up the registers of baptism and marriages to the Session.

August 23.—James M'Kean, late merchant in Elgin, has mortified 500 merks Sc to the session of Elgin for the poor. [Extract of deed of mortification here recorded.] Bad coin from 9th July 1734 to 11th October 1737 £22 11s 6d.

8th November. — Bailie Wilson, late treasurer, gave in the £4 Sc. of balance in his hands which being all in Doyts to the passing of which there is lately a stop put by the magistrates in this place except by counting two for one of current coin. The samen delivered to Robert Allan new treasurer at the value of £2 and the session appoint the

doyts given in among the after collections to be so counted also he gave in £20 15s. Sc. of bad copper weighing 12 pound old weight which being rouped instanter they were carryed by Bailie Wilson at 6s Sc. per pound weight amounting to the sum of 6s Stg., also delivered up to him a box with two Communion cups marked anno 1711, item a large strouped pewter flagon, item a box with Communion tokens with an iron for stamping them, item a box with one Communion table cloath and eight napkins.

1738.

Fourteen bibles given with the interest of Mr Thomson's mortification.

4th April.—The Session grant the petition of the incorporation of Square Wrights to build a loft above the guildry loft.

13th June.—The Marriage and Baptism registers still being undelivered the General Assembly appoint the Agent for the church to commence a process for recovering them.

25th June.—It being represented that the Sabbath is profained by drawing of water from wells and river, buying of fruit in gardens &c. visitors are appointed and the Moderator to speak to the magistrates for their concurrence in suppressing vice and enormities on the Sabbath day. The magistrates promise their assistauce.

29th August.—The Session has obtained decreet for M'Kean's Mortification.

25th October.—The case now in the Court of Session.

Sunday collections in September from £5. 4s. to £5 18s. and bad coin from 1s. 2d to 2s 10d weekly.

James Garden has filled up eight years of the S ssion register.

1740.

Feb. 3.—£103 3s distributed to the poor being in great straits.

16th March.—The Court of Session give sentence in favour of John M'Kean intiteling

him to all monies on heritable securities as nearest heir to his uncle James M'Kean. The case to be represented to the church agent.

13th May.—The session appoint that the beadles shall have annually for taking up the list of people and calling them to examination and visitation both in town and country and for their attendance on the visitors on the Sabbath day in the town to have each £3 Sc. and that in name of shoes and to have 20s Sc. after each Sacrament in place of each having a penny Stg out of each Sabbath day's collection —a practice now to be abolished.

11th October.—The Communion deferred, the corns being yet in the fields by the inclemency of the weather.

1741.

Feb. 4.—Fast by order of the King and General Assembly on account of the war with Spain.

3rd March.—There being a huge number of the poor at the door crying for supply in their starving circumstances the session resolved to distribute weekly the weekly collections to the most indigent seeing their necessities could not wait quarterly distributions as formerly in times of plenty. Distributed £20 19s 3d.

5th April.—The Session considering the clamant and starving case of the poor in this time of famine and that the weekly collections goes but a short way amongst them resolve to borrow £100 Sc.

1743.

John Sanders, late merchant, Elgin, has bequeathed £100 Sc. to the poor of Elgin.

1744.

Bailie Grant reported Pittalies two silver cups in the Town's hands and delivered to the Treasurer two communion cups also a large peuter strouped flaggon.

7th October.—Collected to help to erect a house at Portsoy for the itinerant to preach in

there £27 13s 8d also 10s bad (that is non-current) coin

9th October.—The Session considering the melancholy condition of the corns lying yet in the open fields by reason of the storminess of the weather appointed a fast throughout the parish to be observed Monday next.

1745.

9th January.—Fast by appointment of civil authority on account of the war.

12th February.—The Session considering the starving condition of the poor especially for want of fire in the lengthened storm appoint a general collection at the kirk door Sabbath afternoon next.

18th June.—To help to carry Isobel Glass to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, £1 10s.

17th September—The Session appointed 15th October for administrating the Sacrament of our Lord's Supper if the troubles of the time hinder not. [The Sacrament was held.]

22nd October.—Distributed to 256 poor from 4s Sc. to 24s Sc. each.

18th December.—Fast appointed by the king on account of war with Spain and France and the unnatural rebellion in this kingdom.

1746.

From 18th February to Tuesday 15th April no week day sermons because of the confusion occasioned by a great part of the rebel army lying here.

March 23rd and 30th and April 6th.—No sermon because of the confusions of the time and our minister being threatened and in danger by some of the rebels.

13th April.—No sermon the Duke of Cumberland with the King's forces passing through the town in pursuit of the rebell army who fled to the West from this town and neigbouring places yesternight and this morning.

26th June (Thursday).—Thanksgiving by appointment of the General Assembly inti-

mated on Sabbath last for quelling the late Rebellion.

9th October being a thanksgiving for the victory over the Rebells Aprile last, observed by the minister of the Regiment lying in town.

1747.

John Petrie chosen Schoolmaster at Pluscarden.

1749.

April 25 (Tuesday). — Thanksgiving on account of the peace, to be observed by appointment of Government. Eighteen bibles bought at 20s. Sc. each from Mr Thomson's mortification

1750.

The Town Council having appointed John Douglas as Beddal the Session choose him kirk officer.

4th March.—Collected £30 10s 8d for some widows in Drainie who lost their husbands by sea.

16th August (Thursday).—Fast by appointment of presbytery upon account of the deludges of rain. Paid for making a new communion table and footstool and helping the old tables £7 16s.

18th November.—Collected £58 1s 3d for the Protestants in Silesia.

1751.

September 2nd.—James Man and —— Garrow in Mostowie delated for breach of Sabbath by going to and returning from the Chappel well upon the first Sabbath of August. They confessed their fault and promised not to do so in time coming. They were dismissed with a sessional rebuke and the same to be intimated. William Rhind, weaver, has removed from Elgin to Banff.

1752.

April 28th.—The two ministers were appointed to wait on the magistrates in order to consert measures for preventing the profanation of the Sabbath day by servants and

children idleing away their time under forestairs and about the outmost skirts of the town and by drawing water, dressing wiggs &c.

14th June.—The session and magistrates agree that visitors be appointed that the names of transgressors be given in to the session baillie and care to be taken to bring them upon conviction to condign punishment. The Sacrament now held only once a year (October).

5th November.—Thanksgiving by appointment of Synod because of the agreeable harvest.

1753.

December 4.—The Session having complained to the Magistrates against Margaret G. she is to be drummed out of the town this afternoon.

1754.

July 23.—Here is inserted copy of deed of mortification of 200 merks Sc. to the poor by John Murdoch in Inshallan in the Glen of Pluskarden.

8th October.—Fool Mage's child given to John Innes, common executioner, his wife to be nursed. The Session agree to give the Marishal's wife £6 Sc. a quarter for nursing the child also half a crown to buy cloaths to it.

1755.

Collected £69 10s 8d for erecting a colledge in New York.

1756.

May 5.—Fast appointed by the Synod of Murray on account of the inclemency of the season and apparent war with France.

22nd July (Thursday).—Fast on account of the war.

16th August.—The session considering the clamant case of the poor this time of great scarcity and dearth did distribute to those in town what is in hand £85 12s. Collections in September averaged £4 13s 7d on Sundays and 5s 8d on Tuesdays.

23rd November.—The session considering that the delinquents cited to satisfie discipline could not appear till the stool of repentance, quite broken down at the Sacrament, should be repaired, accordingly orders were given thereanent and appointed how soon it was mended that all the delinquents should be cited to satisfy.

November.—Two infants were lately exposed one in Provost Robert's clos in Colledge and the other at Andrew Hendrie's door at the West Port. The mothers or exposers not discovered. One infant was about a year old the other about 14 days. The magistrates and session agree to support them in equal proportions the former out of the penalties.

30th November. — The S.P.C.K. having settled on John Petrie in Pluskarden £8 stg yearly for teaching the Charity School to be erected there the Session withdraw their gratuity of £4 Sc.

1757.

February 10 (Thursday). — National fast appointed by the King.

2nd August.—The Session being apprised that the case of the poor is very clamant by reason of the famine appointed intimation to be made for a contribution for their behoof.

1758.

January 31.—For necessaries for burying one of the foundlings £1 16s.

16th February.—Fast appointed by the King upon the account of war with France. Collected for the infirmary at Aberdeen £35 15s 9d.

4th April (Tuesday) —Collected being a very stormy day 1s 6d Sc. [1½d sterling].

1759.

May 24.—To a supplicant carried upon a litter 18s Sc.

September 28.—Rev. Mr David Rintoul admitted one of the ministers of Elgin..

November 29 (Thursday). — Thanksgiving appointed by the King and Privie Council on account of success against the French.

1760.

March 13 (Thursday).—Fast appointed by the King on account of the war with France.

August 26.—The presbytery advise that the civil magistrate be applied to by the session to banish Barbara R. in Colledge the bounds of this parish. The Session agree that the Sheriff be applyed to to banish her the bounds when he comes to the country. The ministers are appointed to exhort Alexander B. in Mostowie, who had taken his wife, labouring under trouble of mind to a popish priest in the Enzie that he by his exorcisms might give her ease, as also that Alexander H. in Colledge had gone with his son to the same priest to be relieved of the like trouble. The session in abhorrence to such hellish practices appointed that the above persons concerned be privately spoken to and that Mr Shaw intimate to the congregation that the above practices be guarded against by all in time coming.

1761.

February 1.—The Session baillie undertook to put Barbara R. out of town.

February 8th.—Collection by appointment of the General Assembly for the ministers of Pensilvania.

1762.

March 11 (Thursday).—Fast by proclamation from the King and Privy Council on account of the war with France and Spain.

March 23.—A great many of the heads of families in the town upon invitation attended the Session and agreed to aid the Session in

preventing the profanation of the Sabbath day and putting a stop to other vices and immoralities that abound in the place. They offered in their turns to traverse the streets with the town's officers and to inspect some suspected ale houses and that before, in time of and after divine worship and to report delinquents to be punished by the Session baillie.

30th March.—No sermon because of the storminess of the day.

16th May.—The S P.C.K. has appointed a salary for a teacher of a Charity School to be set up at Thornhill.

26th May.—The treasurer's accounts include a gratuity of £25 4s at the Duchess Dowager of Gordon's buriall.

May 30th.—Elizabeth F. servitrix, Barnhill, dismissed with a sessional rebuke for carrying home some things in her lap on Sabbath night which she had bought at the market.

7th November.—The Act of Parliament made July 1690 for preventing murthering of new-born infants was read.

1763.

March 1st.—Meeting of heritors with the presbytery to concert anent building a manse for the ministers of Elgin.

5th May.--Thanksgiving on account of the peace twixt Brittan and France. Collected for the infirmary at Aberdeen £103 5s.

16th August.—John, son to James Smith in town and Charles, son to John Ross having been delated for climbing up on the Chanry Kirk Sabbath was a fourtnight and taking their diversion there appointed they be cited to next Session.

6th September.—Given towards burying John Adam, gravemaker 18s.

8th November.—Paid John Shanks £4 6s 6d for making a chest for holding the Communion linnens and papers.

1764.

January 29.—After sermon intimated that a course of examination in the country parish will be begun Wednesday next.

10th April.—The Session appoint Jean Murdoch to compear publickly before the congregation to be rebuked for breach of Sabbath in having a plaiding web drying about ten of the clock in the forenoon of Sabbath in the month of July, 1761.

13th November.—This day Mr Rintoul informed the Session that Mr Joseph Gordon of Minorie Lane, London, had sent down to him a pulpit bible for the use of the ministers of the town of Elgin upon which the Session desired that Mr Rintoul write to the said Mr Gordon and acknowledge their gratitude to him for his so acceptable a compliment.

1765.

April 14th.—Collected for widdows in Burghsea who lost their husbands when fishing £87 9s 6d Sc.

May 16th (Thursday).—Fast by Act of Synod on account of the bad weather.

October 15.— Baillie Allan, Treasurer, has bought at the market this day 14 yards linnen for a communion table cloath at 16s. Sc. per yard, £11 4s.

November 24th.—Collected for the widdows at Lossymouth £54 6s 8d.

1767.

June 7.—Collected for the Infirmary in Aberdeen £78 11s 6d including what was collected and given by the Grammar School boys and by the English School boys as also what was collected at the meeting house in Pluskarden.

June 16th.—Paid £14 for nursing and burying the foundling. No accounts of John behind but that he is fled.

1768.

The Session has two silver cups with stalks 2 lb. 2 oz. new weight, two ditto wanting stalks 1 lb. 5 oz. 9 drop ditto, one pewter flaggon, one leather bagg, and one box with communion tokens, one iron stamp for ditto, one large and one lesser tablecloth, four napkins with knops and two plain ditto for the communion bred, eight napkins fringed for the collection stools, four pewther basons for collections, one ditto and two napkins for baptisms, six stools for collections, one chest three foot long twelve inch deep with lock and key, two cloth coverings for the pulpit, one green one black, one small bell for the session house, four large tables and six forms for the communion. Mr James Cruden, schoolmaster in Elgin, chosen Session Clerk.

A scroll book with Session minutes and note of collections was recovered in Edinburgh a few years ago and restored to the Session. It contains entries from 7th August 1767 to 24th November 1779. Part of the minutes in the scroll book appear also duly entered in the foregoing volume. The beginning of the scroll book is in the handwriting of Rev. Lachlan Shaw, his signature appearing *sub.* 4th November, 1768.

1770.

7th November.—It being represented to the Session that James Lawrence was working in his smithy on the fast day in the morning and that the people in Bilbohall were in the plew that day (they said their master Mr Duff obliged them) and that Samuel Ramsay shod horses that day in Shocardine the members of the Session were appointed to inquire into the truth of these things.

1771.

The Session appoint 200 tokens to be made.

10th October.—Baillie S. referred to the presbytery he refusing to answer the summons of the Session for gross profanation of the Lord's day by assembling in a publick inn with several people to consult and advise about who should be magistrates and members of the Town Council the ensuing year and likewise by signing an order upon the Treasurer for the precept of the expence of the entertainment of that meeting.

1773.

Twenty pound weight of bad copper sold when broke at 6d per lb.

1774.

20th February.—Public collection at the church doors for relief of poor indigent families that have been in great distress. [£10 4s 7d stg. collected].

4th May.—The Session Clerk to intimate to Mr James Sinclair procurator fiscal of the Commissary Court of Murray that he is to give the half of the fines imposed on delinquents brought before him by the Session to the Session for the use of the poor agreeable to the Act of Parliament.

1775.

September 14th.—The Session considering that there may be about 800 or 1000 people in the parish of Elgin who cannot be accommodated with seats in the Church of Elgin many of the people do not hear when they come to church especially since some new lofts were built, for which reasons some go to other churches, some go to places of worship not of our communion and many stay at home, therefore the Session petition the Town Council for the use of the Little Church for a preacher to have publick worship in twice every Lord's day while public worship is going about in the

great church. Many pious people of respectable characters have signified to contribute thereto. Rev. Mr Peterkin dissents.

November.—Cases still occur of persons appearing before the congregation to be rebuked.

December 7th.—Alexander Duffus gives in to the Session 100 marks left by his mother Margaret Collie to the poor of Elgin.

1776.

7th December.—£1 stg given by the Session for relief of the widows in Findhorn who lost their husbands by a storm.

1779.

The Session appoint a committee to wait upon the magistrates to propose some scheme for preventing the great abuse of the Lord's day that takes place in this town. 18 lbs. Dutch of bad copper in the Session's hands.

BRIEF RECORD OF THE MINISTERS OF ELGIN FROM THE REFORMATION.

(From Scott's "Fasti," "Registers of Assignation of Stipends," Young's "Elg'n," &c.)

1563.—*Robert Pont* removed from Dunkeld, continued in 1565.

1567.—*Alexander Winchester*, with £100 Sc. of stipend, presented to the vicarage by James VI., 26th February same year, which he demitted 27th Nov., 1569, while his stipend was raised at Beltan 50 merks. In 1574 St Andrews was added to the charge with £115 11s 1⅓d of stipend besides the kirklands, and 19th February same year he had a presentation from his Majesty to Spynie. In the Assembly, October 1578, a complaint was made that he had "left his flock and now preacheth in Stirline," but he continued in 1580. He published "A Letter to Mr Robert Pont, Commissioner of Murray."

In 1576 his charge and stipend were as follows:—Elgin, St Andrew Kirk and Spynie—*Alexander Winchester*, minister, his stipend £133 6s 8d with the kirkland of Elgin and for pament thairof 7 ch. 3 b. 2 f. 3 pt. fir. beir to be pait out of the third of the bischoprik of Murray out of the auld assumption of the lands of Kynedward, Akinheid or Birna and out of the third of the personage of Spyny £17 15s 6½d. *William Douglas*, reidare at Elgin and Sanctandrois kirk and his stipend without kirkland because his kirkland is designit to the minister. The haill vicarage of Elgin newlie disponit 40 li. and also in respect of the vant of kirklands the thrids of his awin chaplanrereis under written, they ar to say, the thrid of the chaplanrie of Pettindrech callit the Ladyhill 44s 6¾d, the thrid of the chaplanrie of Gaddwell £4 13s 4d, the thrid of the chaplanrie of Sanct Andro callit Knockan-

doch 53s 9¾d, the thrid of the chaplanrie of Catboill £5 6s 8d, the thrid of the chaplanries of Sanct icolas callit Dandaleyth 31s 1¾d. *James Philip* reidare at Spyny, his stipend 40 merks with the Kirkland to be payit out of the thrid of the personage of Spynie be the persoun, taxmen or possessors therof as the reidare sall cheis.

1581.—*Alexander Douglas*, translated from Keith, admitted 1581. He was appointed Commissioner for Moray by the Assembly, August, 1588. He was one of two appointed in March, 1596, for visiting Orkney, Zetland, Caithness, and Sutherland, to commence in June, from which he returned 21st July after, and was one of five for a similar duty in Ross, Moray, and Aberdeen, to commence in August. He had been written for 27th June, 1599, by his Maj-sty "to pass South." Out of 24 Assemblies he was a member of 13 from his settlement till his promotion to the Bishopric of Moray 1602. He had the charge of the parish for a time in conjunction with the See, and died 9th (?11th) May, 1623, in the 43rd year of his ministry (see his tombstone, which, on the demolition of St Giles, was removed to the north wall of the Cathedral churchyard).

1585.—Elgin and St Androis Kirk [Spynie was now disjoined]. *George* [*Douglas*] *Bischope of Murray* his stipend the twa pairt of the bischoprik of Murray extending to £1099 11s 6½d money, 6½ b. quheit 51 ch. 9 b. 3 f. beir, 1 ch. 10½ b. horse corne 5 lastis 3 barrellis salmonnd. *Maister Alexander Douglas*, minister, his stipend 7 ch. 3 b. 2 fir. beir with the Kirkland, to be pait out of thrid of the bishoprick of Murray be the taxmen or parochiners of Elgin. *William Douglas* reidar at Elgin, his stipend £56 11s 5¾d thairof the haill vicarage of Elgin newlie disponit £40 and the thrid of the chaplanrie [the rest the same as 1576 *supra*].

1590. — Elgin — *Mr Alexander Dowglas*, minister. His stipend 7 ch. 3 b. 2 fir. to be payit out of the bishopric of Murray be the takkismen or parochiners of Elgin as followis: Be the tennentis of Mayne, Aikinheid, Langmorgan, Miltoun, half of Quhyte wra, Thornhill, Forrestersayt, croftes of Elgin and Scottistounhill with the manse and gleib and als out of the rentis of the said Bishopric lc. lib. money be the ressavaris tennentis, takkismen and possessors of the saids rentis as the minister sall chois. William Dowglas, redare, the haill vicarage of Elgyn 40 li. the thrid of the chaplanrie of Pettindrech callit Ladyhill 44s. 6½d. [the rest the same as 1576 *supra*].

1596.—*Mr Alexander Douglas*, minister. His stipend 7 ch. [rest as 1590 *supra*] to be pait by the parochiners of Elgin as followis . . . . gleib and out of the rentis of the Lordship of Spynie lc. li. togidder with the siluer dewtie of the tak of the teinds of the parosche of Elgin. Sir William Douglas, redare at Elgin [rest as before]

1597.—William Douglas not Sir William Douglas.

1601.—*Mr Alexander Douglas*, minister, his stipend 7 ch. &c. [as before till the end, when there is added] possessit be Alexander, Lord Spynie, Archibald Douglas of Pittindreich, Alexander Innes of Cottis, Francis Gavoy (?), John Douglas in Unthank, Thomas Grant of Scherastoun, Johne Cuming of Eirnsyde, and Alexander Innes of Cokistoun. *William Douglas*, reidar, his stipend the haill vicarage of Elgin 40 lib., thrid of the chaplanrie of the Ladie callit Pittindreich 43s 5¾d, thrid of the chaplanrie of Galdwell (?) [Rest as before.]

1607.—Elgin—*Maister Alexander Douglas*, Bischope of Murray, minister, his stipend the haill bischoprik thairof. *Maister William Clogy*, secund minister at Elgin, his stipend furth of the thriddis of the bischoprik of Murray 82 bolls beir to be payit be the paroch-

inaris of Elgyn, the tennentis and occupyaris of the auchtane partis and greischippis thairof, the teyndis of the croftis of Elgin. *William Douglas*, reidar, his stipend the haill vicarage of Elgyn 40 li.

1608.—Elgyn—*Maister Alexander Douglas*, Bischope of Murray, minister, his stipend the haill bischoprik thairof with mans and gleib.

1614.—Elgyn—*Mr David Philp*, minister [of second charge], his stipend to be payitt be the Bischop of Murray. (See supra 12th October, 1621). Mr Thomas Dunbar is now minister of St Androis kirk and Oigstoun.

1617.—*David Philp A M.* translated from the second charge and admitted 30th December. He died 11th September, 1632, aged about 50 years.

1633.—*John Gordon A.M.* translated from Kinedar, admitted 31 March. He had the degree of D.D. from King's College, Aberdeen, 21st September, 1635. He was absent from his charge ten weeks, six of which were spent in Aberdeen. He was elected a member of the General Assembly 1638 but refusing to subscribe the Covenant he was deposed by the Synod 30th April 1639 for deserting his charge &c not admitting the sentence. A complaint was made to the presbytery 18th July that he had preached on a Sunday at Essil, but the sentence was affirmed by the Commission of Assembly 23rd August after. Having obtained a situation in England he returned to Elgin 1642, sold his books and plenishing and took with him his wife and children. He was excommunicated and the sentence intimated October 1648. In 1635 he published 'Confessio fidei in duobus capitibus' &c.

1640.—*Gilbert Ross A.M.* translated from Colmonell, arrived 10th and admitted 24th September. In company with Robert Innes yr of that ilk the Laird of Brodie &c. he tore down 28th December following the fine partition screen of the Cathedral which had remained since the Reformation. This Mr

Ross carried home for kitchen fuel but each night the fire got extinguished and could not be kept in till morning. Mr Ross was a member of Commissions of Assembly 1642, 1644, and died 13th August 1644 aged about 52 years. His son Gilbert of Ballaird was served heir 6th October 1657.

1645.—*Murdoch M'Kenzie A.M.*, translated from Inverness, elected after a keen struggle 5th November 1644 presented by the Town Council and admitted April 1645. He informed the presbytery 8th June after that he could not reside "by reason of the troubles." He was a member of the Commission of Assembly 1649 and was nominated one of the visitors of the College of Aberdeen about the same time. Being a zealous Presbyterian and Covenanter he was hostile to keeping holy days and it is said in 1659 he searched many houses of the town that the inmates might not enjoy eating a Christmas goose. He was promoted to the bishopric of Moray 1662 holding charge of the parish as parson till his translation to the see of Orkney 1677.

1677.—*James Atkine D.D.* elected Bishop of Moray 1st November 1677, consecrated 1679, translated to the see of Galloway 1680. He does not appear to have taken the parsonage.

1680. — *Colin Falconer A.M.* appointed Bishop of Moray in 1680 but does not appear in the parsonage. He died at Spynie 11th November 1686 in the 63rd year of his age.

1687.—*Alexander Rose D.D.* appointed to the see of Moray 1687 but does not appear as parson. Promoted to the bishopric of Edinburgh 1688.

1688.—*William Hay D.D.* promoted to the see of Moray 29th February. He was deprived of the parsonage by the Privy Council 10th October 16 9 for not reading the proclamation of the Estates &c. He died 19th March 1707 in his 61st year.

1696.—*Robert Langlands* translated from the Barony, Glasgow, called unanimously in 1695 and admitted 21 June 1696. He died 12th August succeeding. "Fulgentissimum quondam ecclesiae sidus, mellifluus verbi praeco, fidelis mysteriorum dei oeconomus, pastor vigilantissimus." On hearing of his death one of the ministers of Glasgow thus prayed—"Lord, what wilt thou do now with us? It seems thou art resolved to flit from among us when thou art packing up some of thy best plenishing." His library was estimate at £100 Sc. Inventory and debt £5454 17s. He married 22nd March 1692 Elizabeth, daughter of George Stirling, chirurgeon apothecary, burgess of Edinburgh, and had a son George, surgeon, Edinburgh, and a daughter, Elizabeth.

1701.—*Alexander King*, translated from Bonhill, called unanimously and admitted 27th April. He died 22nd December 1715 in the 63rd year of his age and the 25th of his ministry.

1717.—*Charles Primerose A.M.* translated from Forres, called by the Presbytery *jure devoluto* 1st November 1716 and admitted 7th May after, and translated to Crichton 11th March 1729.

1730.—*James Winchester*, translated from Auldearn, called 28th August 1729 and admitted 5th May following. He was translated to Jedburgh 10th April 1734.

1735.—*Alexander Irvine*, translated from Auldearn, called 11th December 1734 and admitted 12th August succeeding. He died 22nd December 1758 in the 63rd year of his age and the 33rd of his ministry. He married (1) Ann, daughter of Thomas Brodie of Pitgavenie (2) 3rd November 1755 Elizabeth Fraser, who died 26th April 1789 and had two daughters, Mary, who married Mr James Gray, minister of Lanark, and Sophia who married Mr John Wood, minister of Rosemarkie.

1759.—*David Rintoul*, translated from Kirkcaldy second charge, presented by George II. 10th March and admitted 28th September. He died 26th October 1778 in the 64th year of his age and 36th of his ministry. He left £100 the interest to be applied to the support of the Chapel of Ease. He married, 29th August, 1754, Helen, daughter of Mr Ludovick Brodie. She died 22nd January 1791, having also contributed, about the year 1781, an annuity to the Chapel of £5 and in 1787 she made a further grant of £100.

1779.—*James Hay D.D.* translated from Dyce, presented by George III 19th December 1778 and admitted 8th July after. He died 22nd January 1784 in the 48th year of his age and the 21st of his ministry He married (1) 11th November 1763 Katherine Robertson and had Hugh, James, Andrew, Barbara, and another (2) 19th September, 1780 Elizabeth Abercrombie who died 27th March 1790.

1784.—*William Gordon A.M.*, a native of the province, had his degree from King's College, Aberdeen, in 1771, licensed by the presbytery 28th March 1776, and ordained by them 30th July succeeding as missionary at Enzie, admitted here 26th August 1784, appointed Chaplain to the 92nd Foot or Gordon Highlanders in 1794 and died 19th February 1837 in the 86th year of his age and the 62nd of his ministry. He held, in addition, for a short time the chaplaincy of the 100th Foot. He married 8th August 1793 Catherine Brodie, who died 24th October 1840 and had sons and daughters of whom Alexander, Sheriff Substitute of Sutherland, James, student of Divinity, and Ann, who married Rev. John Allan of Maryculter.

1838.—*Alexander Topp*, licensed by the Presbytery of Fordyce July 13th 1836, presented by Queen Victoria 1837 and ordained 25th January following. On joining the Free Secession he was declared no longer a minister of this church, 21st June 1843. He became

minister of Free Roxburgh Church, Edinburgh in 1852, of Knox's Church, Toronto 1858 and had the degree of D.D. from the University of Aberdeen March 1870. He married, 10th January 1850 Mrs Jane Mortimer or Clark, widow of Mr John Clark, insurance broker, Aberdeen. He published "The Kingdom of Christ in the World" (Elgin, 1844).

1843-73.—*Francis Wyllie D.D.* (see postea).

1873-82.—*P. J. Mackie* (see postea).

1882.—*Robert Macpherson, M.A., B.D.*, was born at Forres of which parish his father (afterwards Professor of Theology in King's College and University of Aberdeen, in succession to his father-in-law Dr Duncan Mearns) was minister and was educated at the Grammar School, Old Aberdeen, and Gymnasium, from which in 1865 he went to the University where he proved himself a distinguished student and graduated M.A. with classical honours in 1869. He attended the Divinity Hall in the same University, and studied also at the University of Göttingen. Mr Macpherson divided with another the Dr John Muir Hebrew prize of £100; and on graduating B.D. in 1872 gained the Brown Divinity Scholarship. He was licensed in 1872 by the Presbytery of Aberdeen, and became assistant successively in Kinloss, Inverness High Church, Stirling East Church, and Govan. He was ordained in August 1877 to Newton-on-Ayr, from which he was translated to Elgin in February 1881. In November 1882 he was elected Clerk of the Presbytery of Elgin.

[It is interesting to note that it is stated that the Collegiate Charge of Elgin is not, as in most cases, represented by a first and second charge, but by a senior and junior charge like St Cuthbert's, Edinburgh. On the death or translation of the senior, the junior becomes *ipso facto* senior. Thus the last appointed to Elgin is always junior, seniority by age or ordination

being of no account. The compiler of these notes does not guarantee that he has kept this fact in view throughout].

"In the year 1606 the Bishoprick of Moray was revived by King James VI. and Alexander Douglas, minister of Elgin was appointed Bishop. Being much occupied with the business of an extensive Diocese he had little time to attend to the pastoral duties of his parish and it therefore became desirable to institute a collegiate charge, which was done in the year 1607, and since that date Elgin has continued to be served by two ministers."

Ministers of the Junior Charge.

1607.—*William Cloggie A.M.* graduated at the University of Edinburgh 29th July 1603 and was translated to Inveravon prior to 1608 and to Inverness in 1620 where he remained until 1640. He became minister of Spynie in 1646, where he died 28th December 1659 aged seventy-seven, in the 53rd year of his ministry.

1613.—*David Philp A.M.* obtained his degree at the University of St Andrews 1602, was ordained before 25th March 1613 and promoted to the first charge December 1617.

1645—*Thomas Law A.M.* translated from Boharm, presented by the Town Council and admitted 28th August. He was a member of the Commission of Assembly in 1646 and died 1st September 1657 aged about 52 years in the 24th year of his ministry.

1659.—*James Horne* translated from Bellie, admitted 28th July, demitted on account of the Test in 1682.

1682.—*Alexander Tod* translated from Langbride, admitted 11th July. He was deprived by the Privy Council 10th October 1689 for not reading the Proclamation of the Estates and not praying for King William and Queen Mary.

1696.—*James Thomson* of Newton, Collessie, translated from Colinton, called 1695 and admitted 21st June 1696. He died 1st June 1726 in the 33rd year of his ministry. He bequeathed 600 merks to buy bibles for the poor. He married (1), 13th February 1696, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Paterson, minister of Borthwick, relict of George Turnbull of Currie; she died 12th August 1698 aged 36 years, (2) Janet, daughter of Brodie of Lethen and had a son James, M.D., physician, Elgin, served heir 24th January 1727, who translated Antoninus, and who sold Newton in 1760. Rev. James Thomson published two single sermons preached at Elgin (Edinburgh 1707, 1709).

1727.—*Joseph Sanderson* translated from Alves, called to the other charge by the presbytery, *jure devoluto*, 8th August 1716, which was fallen from 16th October following, again called to this charge 20th October 1726 and admitted 2nd May. He died 15th July 1733 in the 31st year of his ministry.

1734.—*Lachlan Shaw A.M.* son of Donald Shaw, farmer at Rothiemurchus, ordained and settled minister at Kingussie 20th September 1716; translated to Cawdor 28th October 1719; translated to Elgin and there admitted 9th May 1734. He demitted the charge 5th April 1774 and died 23rd February 1777 in the 85th year of his age and 61st of his ministry, according to the *Fasti* but Mr Young says "it is generally thought in Elgin that he had reached the age of ninety-one." In the several characters of a Christian minister and a member of society he conducted himself with such propriety and dignity as to merit the highest respect. He was evidently a hard student and kept up his knowledge of the literature of his country to the close of life; and being an eminent Gaelic scholar and of extensive information, his correspondence was solicited by Lord Hailes, and others of the greatest eminence on historical, literary,

and antiquarian subjects. He married (1) a daughter of Mr Stewart, Collector of Customs at Inverness and had a son David of New York (whose grand daughter married Hon. Lord Jeffrey) and a daughter Anne, who married Bailie John Copland of Aberdeen, (2) 14th March 1727, Anne, daughter of Bailie Duncan Grant of Inverness. She died 2nd November 1783 and had a large family of whom Duncan, minister at Aberdeen, Lachlan of Jamaica, Donald, David, Mary, Isabella, Marjory (who married the succeeding incumbent) and Sarah, who married Mr Donaldson (whose grandson Lachlan was Mayor of St John, New Brunswick). He published "History of the Province of Moray" (1775), "Description of Elgin and Moray" (Pennant Second Tour I.), "Continuation of Rose's Genealogy of the family of Kilravock," and he edited Rev. Dr Macpherson's "Critical Dissertations."

1774.—*William Peterkin, A.M.*, graduated at Marischal College 1764 licensed by the presbytery 10th May 1768, presented (to be assistant and successor) by George III. 8th April 1773 and again 14th April 1774 and ordained 14th July succeeding. He died 8th January 1788 in the 14th year of his ministry. "He was" says Dr Scott "the first incumbent in the parish who had recourse to notes in the pulpit." He married, 31st December 1774, Marjory, daughter of Rev. Lachlan Shaw. She died 4th June 1814 and had a son James Duff, merchant, Glasgow. He was the author of "A Dialogue on Public Worship."

1788.—*John Grant, A.M.*, son of Mr Hugh Grant, minister of Knockando, was licensed by the presbytery of Aberlour 5th March 1754, recommended by the presbytery to be preacher at Enzie 26th November 1755, ordained minister of the parish of Dundurcas 28th September 1758, removed to Boharm in June 1783 and thence translated to Elgin 2nd September 1788 and admitted 14th October

thereafter. He died 22nd October 1814 in the 84th year of his age and 57th of his ministry. He was twice married and among other children he had was a daughter who married Alexander Addison Esq., an eminent counsel at the American bar. Publications—Of the Roman hasta and pilum; of the brass and iron used by the ancients; memoir of the Roman progress to the north of the Grampian Hills; Chaps. 1 and 2 of Survey of Moray. Part of his MS. entitled "Britannia Antiqua" is in Cullen House Library. Account of the Parish, Old Statistical Account Vol. V., "He was indefatigable in the discharge of pastoral duty, administering comfort to the distressed and relieving the necessities of the poor. When not employed in his official labours he devoted his time to the acquisition of knowledge, his reading being varied and extensive, while his taste was chaste and his judgment correct. He completed a large work on chronology, which was approved by his school-fellow, Principal Robertson, but its publication was anticipated by a similar work on the subject. Though much devoted to retirement and research, his manners were courteous and easy, neither betraying the restraint nor pedantry by which the scholar is too often characterised. He delighted in social mirth, could be frolicsome with youth, serious with gravity, and garrulous with old age."

1815.—*Lewis Gordon, D.D.*, was licensed by the Presbytery of Forres 19th July 1768, ordained and settled minister of Drainie 28th September same year, had the degree of D.D. from King's College, Aberdeen, 1815; was elected Moderator of the General Assembly in May thereafter and translated to Elgin 14th August same year and admitted 5th September following. He died at Burghead 29th June 1824 in the 76th year of his age and the 56th of his ministry. He is said to have married a daughter of the Rev. Robert Logan, minister of Rafford by whom he had a large family

including John, Lewis, Robert, Charles, lieutenant in the 76th Foot and a daughter Fenella who married Rev. John Macdonnell, Forres. He wrote the account of Drainie in the O.S.A.

1825.—*Alexander Walker, A.M.*, son of Mr William Walker in Glenbucket was licensed by the Presbytery of Fordyce December 1804, ordained and settled minister of Old Machar August 1805 translated to Urquhart, Morayshire, March 1811, translated to Elgin October 1824 and admittted 6th June, 1825. The presbytery found "that Mr Walker as the oldest incumbent in the parish is entitled to a manse and office houses and therefore ordain the heritors, feuars, and others to build the same" which was opposed by the Magistrates and Town Council but the grounds of their objection were repelled unanimously by the Court of Session 17th November 1841. Mr Walker was re-translated to Urquhart 4th August 1841 and died 28th January 1847 aged about 69 years and in the 42nd year of his ministry. He married 6th January 1807 Elizabeth Grant who died 11th January 1855. Of his five sons and two daughters were William, Alexander, John, and Henry (the two latter being ministers of St Andrews-Lhanbryd and Urquhart), Margaret who married John Lawson Esq. of Chapelton, and Eliza who married Mr Alexander Cruickshank, M.D. Elgin.

1842.—*Francis Wylie, D.D*, a native of Dundee, educated at St Andrews, was ordained and admitted 17th March 1842. He died 31st March 1873. He married Margaret, daughter of Alexander Brander, Esq. of Springfield. He was minister of the senior charge 1843-1873.

1843.—*Philip Jervis Mackie* was a native of Crail, Fifeshire, where his father was a farmer, and was educated at St Andrews University. After being for a short time an assistant in one of the churches in that city, he was presented by the Crown in 1843 to the collegiate

charge of Elgin. He was then only a young man of 23 years of age. It was his first and only charge, and he died in harness on the 15th of April, 1882, at the age of 61 years.

1873-1882. — *Duncan Stewart D.D.* was a native of Blair-Athol. A distinguished student at St Andrews University, he continued his scholarly habits throughout his life. Hebrew was one of his favourite studies, and he was author of a Hebrew Grammar of some note. In 1884 his *Alma Mater* recognised his abilities by conferring on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity. He was ordained in 1860, and was successively minister of Golspie, Dornoch, Elgin and Spott. At this last place he died in August 1888. He was minister of Elgin from 1873 to 1880.

1881-1882. — (Thereafter senior charge) *Robert Macpherson, M.A., B.D.* (see antea).

1882-1894 — *Alexander Lawson, B.D.*, was born in Culross, Perthshire, in 1852, and was educated at the Geddes School there (1859-1869), where he benefited by the admirable teaching, and was influenced by the high character, of Mr John Christie, who, after over fifty years' teaching in Culross, died in 1894. Mr Lawson entered the University of St Andrews in 1869-70 as second bursar, and in the following session gained the Brown bursary of £30, open to second year students, and at the close of his arts' curriculum graduated with first-class honours in Philosophy, and was awarded the Tyndall-Bruce scholarship, and in the following year the Ramsay scholarship. Mr Lawson entered as a divinity student at St Mary's College, St Andrews, in 1873-74, was assistant to Professor Thomas Spencer Baynes in 1876-77, studied at the University of Heidelberg in 1876, and graduated B.D. in April, 1877. In this latter year he was licensed by the Presbytery of St Andrews and became assistant to Rev. John Paton, St Michaels, Dumfries, and in 1879 to Rev. W. W. Tulloch, B.D., Maxwell Parish, Glasgow.

On 21st September, 1882, Mr Lawson was ordained collegiate minister of Elgin. He married 27th December of the same year. From 1886 to 1889 he was examiner in Philosophy and English in the University of St Andrews, was in October, 1893, inducted minister of Deer, and in the following year exemplified his literary activity by publishing "A Book of the Parish of Deer." On March 19th, 1897, Mr Lawson was appointed by the University Court of St Andrews to the newly-instituted Berry Chair of English Literature, and began to lecture on 6th October. It may be added that Mr Lawson when in Elgin was a member of the Landward School Board, and was Chairman of the Parochial Board, 1889 93.

1894. — *William Moffat, M.A., B.D.* was born near Glasgow in 1865. He received his preliminary education from Dr Sewell, a famous teacher of his day, and entered Glasgow University in 1883, graduating M.A. in 1887 and B.D. in 1890. Mr Moffat was a distinguished student at the University having gained prizes in Latin, Greek, Logic, English Literature, Church History, Divinity, &c., besides bursaries in Arts and Divinity. In English Literature he was awarded by his fellow students the first prize open to the competition of the whole class and Principal Caird records in a flattering testimonial that Mr Moffat had been called upon to officiate in the University Chapel, a distinction only once or twice before conferred on a licentiate of the Church. Mr Moffat was assistant for a year to Rev. John Smith, minister of Partick and for two years to Rev. Dr Donald Macleod, minister of Park Parish, Glasgow, and in April 1894 was ordained collegiate minister of Elgin.

Little Church or Chapel of Ease.

The little church had been built on the end of the parochial church for the week-day

worship of the town's people on the abolition of Episcopacy in compliance with their prejudice for holy days and was again opened in 1744. A large and new chapel was proposed 8th May 1788 to be erected. A petition that it be recognised as such was presented to presbytery 30th April 1799, but was found 29th April 1800 to be unnecessary and inexpedient and the judgment was confirmed by the General Assembly of 26th May 1778. David Mitchell A.M. son of John Mitchell, Cromarty, from Marischal College, Aberdeen, ordained by the presbytery June 1778 as assistant to Rev. David Rintoul, continued to supply after Mr David Rintoul's death till promoted to Ardclach 1781.

1781.—Alexander Macadam, schoolmaster of Cromarty, supplied till promoted to the Gaelic Church, Cromarty, 1782.

1798.—Ronald Bayne A.M. formerly of the Gaelic Church, Aberdeen and subsequently Chaplain to 73rd Foot in India, interdicted by presbytery 1799 from doing duty. Removed to Chapel of Ease in Inverness soon after.

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By the same Author:

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